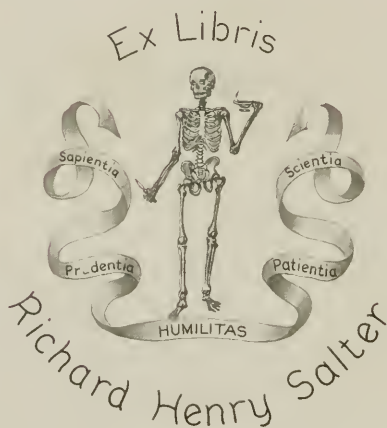




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*THE GIFT OF HIS DAUGHTER.*

Edith Agnes Salter.

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THE AUTHENTICK  
NARRATIVE  
Of the SUCCESS of  
TAR WATER,  
In curing a great NUMBER and  
VARIETY of DISTEMPERS;  
WITH  
REMARKS:  
By THOMAS PRIOR, *Esq*;  
CAREFULLY ABRIDGED.

To which are subjoined,  
Two LETTERS from the Author of SIRIS :  
Shewing the Medicinal Properties of TAR WATER, and  
the best Manner of making it.

---

*To do good, and to communicate, forget not.*    HEB. xiii. 16.

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L O N D O N, Printed 1746.

B O S T O N: N. E.

Re-printed and Sold by ROGERS and FOWLE in Queen-Street.

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MDCCXLIX.

1453



## Advertisement.

THE narrative of the following cases, &c. was first publish'd at *Dublin*, by *Thomas Prior*, Esq; a public-spirited gentleman of that city, with the following dedication.

*To his Excellency PHILIP, Earl of Chesterfield, Lord Lieutenant General, and General Governor of Ireland.*

“ HIGH stations furnish great opportunities of doing good, where there is a head to discern, and a heart to apply. Your excellency is eminent for both. Since your arrival in this kingdom, you have acquired a thorough knowledge of its interests, which you apply to the service of his majesty and the public, in such a manner, that your administration will be always remembered with gratitude and honour. Your management, so generous of your own, and so frugal of the public treasure, joined with a conduct so open and sincere, without the least tincture or suspicion of private views, leave us at a loss to determine, which to admire most, the true policy, or the probity of our governor.

“ That benevolent and disinterested spirit, which distinguishes your character, hath emboldened me to address this small treatise to your excellency ; which, as it is calculated to promote the public good, coincides so far with your own views, as to seem entitled to some share of your protection and patronage.”

*I am, with the greatest Respect,  
Your Excellency's most obedient,  
and most humble Servant,*

THOMAS PRIOR.

Mr. *Prior* declares ( and there is no reason to suspect his veracity ) that his sole motive in collecting and publishing the following cases was the public good.

Some gentlemen who have received benefit by Tarwater, finding it tedious to recite the cases correspondent to any ailment, proposed this scheme, designing, instead of being at so much trouble, to dispose of a book, when they see a proper object, that the persons aggrieved may judge of the cases most near to their own, and take or reject the water accordingly, with their eyes open, and from their own conviction, rather than the importunity of another.

That there are not more cases published of persons cured in *England* by Tarwater, out of the multitudes that have received benefit from it, is no wonder, since no body has taken the trouble to collect them ; and many, that have

have been sent to the public papers, have never appeared. The following, which is of that number, shall conclude our preface.

*To the* A U T H O R *of, &c.*

S I R,

**H**AVING received great benefit by Tarwater, I presume that the publication of my case may be of service to others in the like disorder, inasmuch as it may induce them to experience the virtues of that benign, salutary draught, and so be a means of restoring them to a vigorous and happy state of health. In *May* last I was suddenly indispos'd; I wasted daily, and became feeble and listless; my appetite fail'd me; what I eat did but just keep me alive, my stomach (which for some time before had been weak) having almost lost its natural faculty of digestion. During my indisposition I had a very bad pitifical cough, and continued wasting till *September*; when, being brought very low, I withal felt my lungs very much affected, and was afraid of a consumption, which likewise was dreaded by all my friends. I then prepar'd some Tarwater, according to the bishop's directions, and drank of it, near half a pint at a time, three or four times a day, all the month of *September*. I had not drank it past a fortnight before health began to appear in my countenance, my stomach was so much strengthened that I could eat with pleasure, and I grew chearful and active. In the next fortnight I quite lost my cough, was freed from the terrible apprehension of a tabes, and am now, I thank God, perfectly hearty; and all through the wonderful efficacy of that sovereign remedy Tarwater,

— *Quo non præsentius ullum*  
*Auxilium venit* —

Oh learned *Berkley*! who enough can praise  
Thy gen'rous labour? thy instructive page,  
Our steps directing to this source of health?  
The fair and beauteous pine in vain had shed  
Its precious juice, till thou, with curious search,  
Explor'd its virtuous qualities, and taught  
Mankind the wholesome secret. Thou hast done  
A deed well worthy everlasting fame!

*Peakirk, near Peterborough,*  
*April 10, 1745.*

J. LANDEN.



# *An authentick Account of the Effects of* T A R - W A T E R.

**H**AVING published in the *Dublin Journal*, July 3. 1744, remarks on an advertisement, and on certain affidavits, concerning the effects of Tarwater in *Stephens's* hospital, and having promised to communicate to the public, an account of several persons, who have been entirely cured, or greatly relieved by the use of Tarwater only, together with their names, places of abode, and nature of their ailments; I now address myself to the performance of my promise.

2. Many very freely communicated their ailments and reliefs; some who had received benefit on the first drinking of it, chose to postpone sending their accounts, till they had received the full benefit they expected. Some, especially of the female sex, were unwilling to have their names mentioned in public. Some cases required a long trial, before any judgment could be formed, or a cure effected. It was also suggested by those who decry'd its use, that whatever seeming benefit some might have received on their first drinking, yet that towards the fall of the leaf, or the winter following, they would feel fatal consequences from it, insinuating, that it was dangerous to drink it in the dog-days, or in cold weather, by which means several were prevailed upon to lay aside the drinking of it for some months; but finding no such consequences, they have since resumed the drinking of it with great advantage.

3. For these and many other reasons the publication of these cases has been so long deferred; but many thousands having now drank Tarwater, and great numbers received benefit; since time, experience, and many tryals (the surest guides in cases of this nature) have established the credit and use of this medicine, it would be a prejudice to the public, and an injury to mankind to deter any longer the publication of the many unexpected, and surprizing cures effected by Tarwater. And as particular instances and facts make stronger impressions than general assertions and reasonings can do; it is with great satisfaction I can inform the public, that I am furnished with a great number of authentic accounts of the effects of Tarwater (more perhaps than ever happened in the case of any other medicine in so short a time) and that chiefly from the patients themselves, most of them men of character and integrity, who, besides the pleasure of recounting the benefits they received, had no other view in communicating their cases, but to promote the good of others, who might labour under the same disorders.

4. With the same view, I can assure the public, that I have most impartially laid before them the facts communicated to me, in the letters of the gentlemen, who have been so good as to give a detail of their own disorders, or of those of their neighbours, and of the benefit they received; the originals of which may be viewed in my hands.

5. From

## 6 Advertisement against Tarwater consider'd.

5. From some, I had the accounts of their cases from their own mouths; and any one may be satisfied from the persons themselves, whose names are mentioned; and tho' others are, at their desire, omitted, if any should be desirous to know them, I shall be ready, for their private satisfaction, to inform them.

6. Many cases occurred of persons, troubled with colds, coughs, difficulty of breathing, want of rest and appetite, which were soon removed by the use of Tarwater; but as these ailments might be removed by exercise, air, proper dyet, or other medicines, without Tarwater, I have omitted most of those cases, tho' the quickness and ease with which they were relieved, and the number of the cures must greatly recommend the use of this medicine. The instances produced therefore, are for the most part cases of the most grievous and dangerous distempers, acute and chronic; such as the gout, king's evil, inveterate scurvy, and ulcers, confirmed asthma, fevers, pleurisies, rheumatisms, colics, &c. which rarely give way to any medicines; but yielded to the power and efficacy of Tarwater, as will appear by the subsequent narrative.

7. I shall beg leave, by way of introduction, to republish the *affidavits* and my *remarks* thereon, which gave the first occasion of writing on this subject, together with some observations published in *England*, relating to that affidavit.

8. Remarks on a late advertisement, and upon certain affidavits mentioned therein, concerning the effects of Tarwater in *Stephens's* hospital.

9. The advertisement was published

in the *Dublin Journal*, June 2, 1744, in the following words, 'We are very well inform'd that many voluntary affidavits have been made before alderman *Walker*, of the unsuccessful use of Tarwater in Dr. *Stephens's* hospital, by numbers of patients in that house, setting forth, that, after a long series of using Tarwater in the most strict and regular manner, none found themselves in any wise better, but many of them much worse; and that these affidavits are in the hands of the visitors of the hospital, and may at any time be viewed by the curious in this matter.'

10. Being surprized to hear that in *Stephens's* hospital alone, none found themselves better, and many worse, by the use of Tarwater, when, at the same time, great numbers both in town and country had received great and surprizing benefit thereby; my regard to truth and the good of mankind induced me to make enquiry into the contents of those affidavits, on which so much stress had been laid.

11. I accordingly addressed myself to the visiting physician of the hospital, who shewed me the original affidavits, and declared the advertisement was published without his knowledge.

12. I shall here publish one of the affidavits.

|                 |   |   |
|-----------------|---|---|
| County          | } | <i>Sylvester Dowdal</i> , one of              |
| of the          |   | the patients in <i>Stephens's</i>             |
| City of         |   | hospital, came this day be-                   |
| <i>Dublin</i> . |   | fore me, and made oath,                       |
|                 |   | that he constantly drank the Tarwater         |
|                 |   | by the directions of Dr. <i>Lebunte</i> , for |
|                 |   | about nine weeks, and deposed that            |
|                 |   | he hath not found any benefit thereby.        |
|                 |   | Sworn before me the His                       |
|                 |   | 25th of May, 1744. <i>Sylvester Dowdal</i> .  |
|                 |   | <i>William Walker</i> . Mark.                 |

13. The

## Affidavits against Tarwater invalidated. 7

13. The doctor informed me, that said *Dowdal* had an imposthume in his stomach, and said that some, who were ordered to drink the water, neglected it.

14. The other five affidavits were to the following purpose.

15. "*James Martin* in a high leprosy swears he drank Tarwater near 6 weeks without benefit.

16. "*Bartholomew Hughs*, in an asthma and consumption of the lungs, drank Tarwater 7 weeks without benefit, as to his shortness of breath, which was his principal disorder.

17. "*Mary Malone*, for the itch, drank the Tarwater 5 weeks without benefit; but being put into another course for 3 weeks, finds herself much better.

18. "*Patrick Shaghnuffy*, for an inveterate itch, drank Tarwater 6 weeks, found himself much worse; but being put into another course finds himself much better.

19. "MA. — in the foul disease, drank Tarwater 6 weeks, and found herself much worse; but being put into another course, finds herself much better."

20. So far the affidavits, whereof 4 were made by persons that could not write.

21. An opposition to a medicine of this nature, must have been either needless or criminal: if the medicine be bad, it will die away of itself; if good, it is plainly unwarrantable to oppose it. How far this opposition, coming from the quarter, that may be suspected of interest in the matter, can be reconciled with the rules of prudence, is submitted to the public consideration: the doctor, a man of worth and skill, acted very properly, and

with good intention in prescribing this water, to be taken even in the worst cases; but the use others have made of it, gives room for the following remarks.

22. The advertisement says, 'many voluntary affidavits have been made by numbers of patients in the hospital, setting forth, that "after a long series of using Tarwater, in the most strict and regular manner, none found themselves in any wise better, but many of them much worse"; now the affidavits, which were but 6, have not those assertions; not a word of a long series, or the most strict and regular manner, or that none received benefit; so that the Advertisement doth no way tally with the affidavits, nor can be supported or warranted by them. Six of the most desperate cases in the whole hospital, were culled out, and made the only tests of the virtues of Tarwater, upon so short a trial as 5 or 6 weeks; altho' the distempers were inveterate, and chronical, and plainly required a length of time, to effect a cure. What medicine could stand, if a few instances of its unsuccess were sufficient to destroy its credit? or what would become of physicians, if the failing of the medicines they prescribe, should be urged against them?

23. It does not appear, by the affidavits, that justice was done to Tarwater in quantity, in time, in accompanying it with any outward wash of Tarwater, as was proper in outward sores, or in acknowledging that it concurred in the cure of the itch; in which case, by driving the venom from the blood to the surface, it will increase the sores for a time, and make ignorant patients think themselves worse. And probably this proved their cure;

for

## 8 Tarwater cures Palsy, Colic, Scurvy,

for as soon as they were anointed with brimstone, they found themselves better ; is this fair dealing ?

24. For the sake of truth, we shall publish a list of those within our knowledge, who have been either intirely cured, or greatly relieved by the use of Tarwater alone, with the places of their abode, and in what ailments they received benefit ; that every other person who may have the same sort of ailment, may know what persons to apply to, and be informed of the particulars of their cure, and thereby may have an opportunity of obtaining the like relief themselves.

25. By what we have already experienced, and daily do experience of the good effects of Tarwater, we have great reason to be persuaded, and to rejoice, that the world is blest with a medicine, so efficacious as seldom to fail of success, so general as to relieve in most diseases, so safe as never to be attended with danger, and yet so cheap, as to be in the power of the poorest person to purchase.

26. The said advertisement from Stephens's hospital, being published in the *English* news-papers, moved a gentleman in the *North of England* to send a letter to the publishers of the *Newcastle Journal*, which they inserted with this preface.

27. There appears so benevolent a design in the following letter, that should we delay the publication of it, we might be accused, not only of ingratitude to the ingenious author, but of injustice to the public.

Gentlemen,

28. I Was moved with no little indignation and concern, at reading a sly inveterate paragraph against Tar-

water, in a late *Newcastle Courant*, published originally in the papers of *Dublin* : What quarter it should come from there, together with the purposes intended it should answer, are plain enough to be guessed at : to obviate, therefore, as much as in me lies, the ill effects of so malevolent a design, I think myself indispensably obliged, as well by the ties of justice and gratitude, to the excellent writer upon the extensive virtues of Tarwater, and discoverer of its powerful effects, as by those of charity and benevolence to my fellow-creatures and sufferers, to make known to the public, thro' the means of your paper, the inestimable benefits that have accrued to me and mine from the use of it.

29. I had long laboured under these following complicated distempers, *palsy, colic, rheumatism, gravel and piles* ; in all which cases I found surprising relief from Tarwater, and that in considerably less time than a month from beginning to drink it. And it has worked still greater effects upon my wife, who was infested to the highest degree, with that *English* plague, the *Scurvy*, together with a large train of disorders, naturally incident to such a height of it ; from which, by the same means, and in the same time, she is recovered in such a manner, as amazes all who were acquainted with her condition ; and that for the time it has been effected in, both she and myself are restored to health, in a degree infinitely beyond our most sanguine expectations ; the truth whereof I am ready to attest ; moreover, I have been a witness of its extraordinary salutary effects in some of my acquaintance to a degree little short of our own. So happy an experience, therefore, both in



in myself and others of its wonderful operation and force, leaves me not the least room to doubt that Tarwater is the most sovereign, and extensive remedy; and cure for diseases in general; *safest* to be taken as well as the *easiest* in the operation, that ever was found out in the whole *Materia Medica*; and as such, may be recommended to the world, notwithstanding the sinister paragraph above mentioned. And, if it is not an absurdity to suppose such a thing in nature as a *Panacea*, nothing, surely, ever bid so fair as this for that character before.--In my thus praising Tarwater, I think I cannot be suspected of being actuated by any other interest than the general welfare and happiness of the human species, willing them to share and enjoy the precious effects of it equally with myself. I purposely forbore, Gentlemen, troubling you with this sooner, because I would first be well warranted in my own mind for whatever I had to say upon the subject, that I might not, in the least, invade the bounds of truth, which in all cases, and especially in so delicate an affair as this, every one ought to be very cautious of.

30. I shall conclude with the good bishop's own words, "Men may censure and object as they please, but I appeal to time and experiment. Effects misimputed, cases wrong told, circumstances overlooked, perhaps too, prejudices and partialities against truth, may for a time prevail and keep her at the bottom of her well: from whence, nevertheless, she emergeth sooner or later, and strikes the eyes of all, who do not keep them shut." I am, gentlemen, yours, &c. ----- County of Durham.

31. This instance shews that many different ailments in the same person, may be all cured at the same time by the same medicine.

32. *William Ward* of *Cockerton*, in the county of *Durham*, Esq; having also seen the said advertisement and remarks in the *Newcastle Journal*, was pleased to communicate his case and relief in several letters, according to the progress of his cure.

From Mr. Ward's letter, dat. June 8, 1744.

33. "I began to drink Tarwater for an *Asthma* this day-fortnight, and take it night and morning a glass, whereof three make a pint. I find it opens my body gently, about two stools a day; but I have had my fits, as often and violently as before. I am not so weak as to think I was to have found a perceptible benefit in so short a space, but shall still continue it; I have had my asthma upwards of 12 years, but not so violent, as at present, and for 7 years last; in which time I have not been in bed, or at most not above 3 or 4 hours, once in a year, when I have flattered myself with being tolerably well; and then as soon as I awaked, I found I was quite loaded with phlegm, tho' a dry asthma; so that I was obliged to get up and have recourse to a pipe of tobacco, which I use all the time I am ill, for I have no ease when I do not smoke. I am seldom without a fit above three or four days, and continue as long in it, and as soon as rain comes I am easy; I have it also against the least change of weather.

My father has it, and my grandmother died of it; so that I have less hopes of a cure as it seems to be hereditary.

ditary. I have tryed many of the most eminent physicians in *England*, but never found benefit. I have had issues in my shoulders, and at present one under each breast, but cannot say I reap any advantage. The medicines I have taken are innumerable."

*From Mr. Ward's letter, July 27, 1744.*

THE first month I took it, my fits were as violent and frequent as usual. The second month I had not one fit, but one night, which was very easy; and I believe I might have continued to have found a daily benefit, if I had not been obliged to attend at the assizes; where I have received a most violent cold, which has brought on both my asthma and a cough. So that at present I am very ill, but am taking all the care I can now to recover myself, for I found so much pleasure in that month's ease, that no temptation can induce me to swerve from rules. I can't so much as lie back in an easy chair; for I have a table set by the side of my chair with pillows on it, so I lay my arm on them, and my head on my arm; and if I am very ill, can't even rest that way; so that no bed can be contrived for me to rest on yet; and tho' I say above, that I had not a fit for a month, yet if I lay back in my chair then, it made me uneasy in two minutes: I drank Tarwater frequently in the day, but not a quarter of a pint at a time, for I find it agrees better with my stomach, than drinking a larger quantity; and in the day, I may take such a quantity 5 or 6 times, as agrees with me. I must beg to take notice of one very great effect it has had on me (which I hope is a good symptom.)

35. Before I drank the Tarwater,

my feet were always as cold as ice, so that I had not the least perspiration in them; for if I had not washed them for a year, they were as clean and dry as the back of my hand: but now, in the last month, I was so easy, I found my feet sweat very copiously, and found in wearing a pair of new stockings only a week, that all the soles were worn, and mouldered away; and what was left was very red, as if I had burnt them.

36. I beg pardon for dwelling so long upon this particular, as it was so surprizing; and my apothecary telling me, when I related it to him, that he was sure I should be cured by drinking the Tarwater, as it had this effect; for it was what he and all my physicians had drove at, to make me have a perspiration in my feet, which was never in their power to get, not even by sitting with my feet in warm water.

*From his letter of September 18, 1744.*

37. "As to my present state of health, I have the pleasure to tell you I was in bed the 10th, 11th, 12th, and 15th instant at night; I went to bed about 8 o'clock, and lay until 7 the next morning, as well as ever I was in my life; and found when I awaked, I was lying on my back; and am quite another man."

*From his letter of January 16, 1744.*

38. "I find the least cold does me harm, and therefore keep close to my house, which is no inconveniency to me, since I am all air and vivacity, which before was a meer state of hebetude. I was obliged to go on the 4th of November last into *Northumberland*, when it was very cold with snow; and as the roads would not admit of wheels, I was compelled to go



on horse-back ; and when I had rode 2 mile easy ( for it is only since I took Tarwater I could ride above a mile on horse-back ) I found I was able to go faster, and put on so fast, that I observed by my watch, that I rode at the rate of 6 miles an hour. My journey was 36 miles, which I completed between the hours of 10 in the morning, and 4 in the afternoon, without drawing bridle ; I rested one day, and came home on the 6th of *November* in the same time.---This I declare upon my honour to be fact, and which was as great a surprize to myself as others."

39. So extraordinary a case as this, and so well vouched by the patient himself, gives us reason to believe, that any asthma whatsoever may be cured by a course of Tarwater, and at the same time shews that people ought to wait for the effect of this medicine, and not lay it aside on a short tryal ; tho' if Mr. *Ward* had drank a greater quantity of Tarwater, and avoided catching cold, he would have been much sooner relieved.

As I have more accounts from *England*, shewing the power of Tarwater in a high degree, I shall introduce them before I mention *Irish* cases.

Extract of a letter from *John Hardcastle*, Esq; of *Houghton*, in the county of *Durham*, a civilian.

40. " My disorder began with violent pains in my breast, which, being removed by fomentation, were succeeded by a great cough. I was in some time almost freed from it : but within two or three days after it was stopped, I was suddenly seized with a palpitation of the heart in a very high degree, which lasted with very little

intermission for two days. That disorder being partly calmed by bleeding, my cough returned again with as much force as ever. I became much emaciated, lost my appetite, grew very weak, and had frequent sweats; my urine was loaded during this illness with a large quantity of red matter, which when evaporated to dryness, did not seem to be of the nature of sand or gravel, but rather like loam or fine clay. The physician declared my case scorbutic, and treated it accordingly. As I had been long following the prescriptions of a physician, I cannot impute my recovery with any certainty wholly to Tarwater. But I think, the sensible and almost immediate alteration I perceived in myself after taking it, leaves me no room to doubt, that alteration was caused by the Tar. It refreshed my stomach with a kindly and agreeable warmth, restored my appetite, and in all probability caused a good digestion : as these gradually increased, my cough declined, my sweats abated, and my strength returned.

41. An account of the extraordinary virtues of Tarwater in the cure of a great number of negroes in the small-pox, sworn before the mayor of *Liverpool*, at the public sessions, where Mr. *Conliff*, Mr. *Armitage*, Mr. *Ried*, and Mr. *John Atherton*, merchants, were present, and who were satisfied of the truth of the particulars, before it was confirmed by oath, as follows :

42. **T**HE *Little Fossen* of *Liverpool*, *Joseph Drape* master, in the year 1742, made a voyage to *Guinea*, and having taken in 216 negroes, before he left the coast, he had the misfortune to see the small pox break

## 12 *Small-Pox, inflammatory Disorders, Ague,*

break out amongst them, and in a very short time no less than 170 ill of it at once.

43. The captain was under great concern, and fully expected, that for want of room and necessaries, he must lose the greatest part of them. A person on board advised him to infuse a quantity of Tar in water, and give it the slaves to drink, saying it was practis'd in the same case with good success: the Tarwater was prepared, but the first, to whom it was offered, obstinately refused it, and so did many more; that man died in 2 or 3 days, which the rest seeing, partly by persuasion, partly by force, were all brought to drink. The good effects were so plainly perceived by the poor creatures themselves, that they came upon deck, and crowding about a tub of Tarwater, set daily for them, drank plentifully of it of their own accord.

44. And of those 170 (most grown persons) not one died, except that one man; the negroes continued drinking Tarwater after their recovery, and could hardly be brought to drink any other.

I do hereby certify upon oath, that the contents of the above narrative are true,

*Liverpool, Joseph Drape.*

*Jan. 14, 1744.*

Sworn before me *Owen Prichard*, mayor.

45. The said Mr. *Atherton*, in a letter of *Feb. 4. 1744*, writes thus:

"We have a very high opinion of Tarwater; my wife has drank a pint a day of it for 8 months past, and received surprising benefit in an inflammatory disorder, in which physick and bleeding had brought her very low: doctor *Dickins*, one of the most emi-

nent physicians in this part of the kingdom, had her under his care, and advised her to Tarwater, as an alterative. So you see doctors differ about it, some asserting it to be inflammatory, the contrary of which, I have the strongest instances of in my own family, and for which Mrs. *Atherton* and myself think ourselves under the greatest obligations to the Bp of *Cloyne*. I am very well informed, it is now a constant practice at *Liverpool* and other places, which fit out ships for the *Guinea* trade, to provide a sufficient quantity of Tar to make Tarwater, to be administered to seamen, in the small pox, scurvy, &c.

46. Rev. Mr. *Hayward* of *Warrington, Lancash.* Oct. 18, writes that he laboured under an ague 4 months, which had reduced him to a very low state, but that he recovered by use of Tarwater only; and enjoys a more lively and comfortable flow of spirits, than ever he did in his life, for which reason he compares Tarwater to the *Nepenthes* mentioned by *Homer*.

*Hom. Odyss. Δ.*

Temper'd with drugs of sovereign use  
t'assuage

The boiling bosom of tumultuous rage;  
To clear the cloudy front of wrinkled  
care,

And dry the tearful sluices of despair;  
Charm'd with that virtuous draught,  
th' exalted mind

All sense of woe delivers to the wind.  
*Pope.*

Or as *Milton* mentions this *Nepenthes*  
in his mask of *Comus*.

Behold this cordial julep here,  
That flames and dances in his crystal  
bounds;

*Not*

## *Swell'd Legs, Green-Sickness, Small-Pox, 13*

Not that *Nepenthes*, which the wife of  
*Thone*

In *Egypt* gave to *Jove-born Helena*,  
Is of such pow'r, as this to stir up joy,  
To life so friendly, or so cool to thirst.

47. A letter from the rev. Mr. *James Menteath* from *Adderbury* in *Oxfordshire*, Feb. 12, 1744. "As soon as I heard of the treatise on Tarwater, and of the directions therein mentioned, I made Tarwater, and drank between 2 and 3 gallons of it; but felt no other effect, than its increasing a good appetite to a stronger, therefore gave it over; having no need of that or any other medicine, and I only drank it to convince others, that it could do them no harm. In *May* last, being curate of this place, I was sent for to pray by a young woman, who, I was told, lay at the point of death: I found her speechless, and her parents told me that a physician said there was no hopes of a recovery. She had some months been troubled with a cough, and a swelling in her legs and arms, which was now become a dropfy, and seemingly in the last state of a consumption. After performing my duty, I told the mother, if she would give leave, I would try a medicine, which I believed might do her service; she readily consented; and I gave her two quarts of the water, and directions, that she should drink half a pint of it at a time, twice, or, if she could bear it, 3 times a day warm. After two days, she was able to sit up, in five was brought down flairs, had some appetite, her cough abated, and the swellings of her legs and arms much sunk; in 6 weeks she seemed well; but discontinuing the water, relapsed.

However drinking it a month longer she intirely recovered, and went to service at *Michaelmas*, and has been well ever since.

48. I had many more patients, who found great benefit from it, particularly in the green sickness, when properly taken, I never found that it failed of success."

49. Thus far Mr. *Menteath*: It is adviseable therefore, in desperate cases, when every thing else has failed, to make use of Tarwater, which may possibly recover the patient from the brink of death: as it has done in this and many other instances, mentioned in the course of this narrative, to the great surprize of all.

50. Mr. *John Berry* of *Manchester*, *May* 30, 1744. "I have taken Tarwater 24 mornings, and sometimes in the afternoon, for a dizziness in my head, which I have had at times for 12 months past, and am as well as ever I was in my life."

51. A physician in *York* wrote to one at *Bath*, *August* 25, 1744. "A lady reduc'd to nigh a skeleton by a bleeding cancer, and thought only fit for *Guy's* hospital of incurables, by the use of Tarwater is so much better, as to be thought in a fair way of enjoying a comfortable state of health. She has recovered her appetite and flesh, and all bad symptoms are almost overcome, and her breast is become soft and easy."

52. A letter from *Lisbon*, *Jan.* 24, 1744. "Tarwater has been of great service here in many cases. It is in vogue in the *Portugal* hospital, they gave it the princess *De Bocra* in the small pox, and she has done very well."

53, 54, 55, 56, 57. are verses, &c.  
in



## 14 Vomiting, Wasting, and Decay of Stomach,

in praise of the bishop, copied from the news-papers.

Remarks by *Philanthropos*.

58. Upon some hints I took from sections 29 and 49 of *Siris*, I resolved to attempt a solution of myrrh, I put a drachm of coarse myrrh into half a pint of Tarwater, and set it in a pint bottle, in a degree of fire, equal to that of a hot sun; and in 3 days I obtained a perfect solution.

Of this infusion, I mix about half an ounce in each half pint of Tarwater, which I daily drink, so mixed, with good success. It makes the Tarwater much more pleasant, giving it an agreeable, sub-acid, bitter taste.

Par. 59. mentions another process less accurate.

60. Supposes this mixt liquor to be a good vulnerary water.

61. Next follow the *Irish* cases, communicated by gentlemen of known integrity.

A letter from the rev. Mr. *Nat. France* of *Yoagball* in the county of *Cork*, July 6, 1744.

62. Reading an advertisement in the *Dublin Courant* of July 3, I thought myself bound by the strongest obligation, gratitude for an inestimable benefit received, as well as for the good of mankind, to give testimony to the truth. Upwards of 20 years I have laboured under a dreadful disorder, occasioned by a prevailing acid in my stomach. For many weeks together, I never rose from sleep, without violent vomiting, and sickness; rarely free from a heart-burn, and that commonly ending in a violent cholick; nervous disorders, frightful spasms, a frequent palpitation of the heart in bed; my disorder baffled the

art of physic. The *Pymont* and *German* spa-water, a constant use of gum-pills for the nervous complaint, gave some little relief, but were very far from rooting out the cause. I industriously shun'd every acid. I have drank Tarwater these 3 years past, and, I bless God, have no complaint, no heart-burning, no vomiting in the morning, which almost deprived me of my sight; no nervous disorder, unless occasioned by a violent cold, from which I am quickly relieved, by taking a plentiful draught of Tarwater. Last summer indeed I laid aside Tarwater for 3 months, believing I did not need it, and that it would cease to be efficacious by constant use. My colick, heartburn, and nervous spasms then return'd as violent as ever. I again had recourse to Tarwater; its happy effect was beyond expectation, in a few days it perfectly reliev'd me. I do now, and shall, for the remainder of my life, make it my morning draught; having no other complaint against it, but this one; that by creating an appetite, which it never fails to do, and causing a good digestion, it renders me more corpulent, than I cou'd wish to be. *Nat. France.*

63. A letter from the corporation of *Augher* in the C. of *Tyrone*, July 7, 1744.

Most of us, having for many years been greatly afflicted with chronical diseases, such as inveterate scurvy, and rheumatick pains, &c. were indeed, from the high character given to the Tarwater, to make trial thereof.

Those who had any out-breaking, found, after a fortnight's trial, the spots rather more inflamed and painful, but afterwards daily growing easier and better. Some of us who were

were seized with the rheumatism found after the like time a sensible remission of the pains ; we in the gout resolve to continue the regular and constant use of that most excellent remedy, and all of us do, in the most affectionate manner, return our public thanks to the author of Tarwater.

Edmund Mac Girr. Rob. Thompson.  
Rev. Mac. Quigan. Adam Smyth.  
Dudly Harvey. Uri. M'Dowall.

64. The rev. Mr. Tho. Squire from Tallow in the county of Waterford, July 11, 1744.

The enemies of Tarwater, I find, are greatly provoked, seeing they endeavour to have it sworn out of credit and practice ; however, I make no doubt, but that for the 6 affidavits against it, you will soon have many hundreds of creditable vouchers for it ; I send you some cases : first my own. Turned of sixty, my stomach began to fail me, and what little I did eat, lay heavy for 2 or 3 hours after dinner ; my flesh wasted so that my cloaths were too big for me, the calves of my legs became soft, and hung from the bones, and the red in my cheeks grew dark and livid, bad symptoms. I drank Tarwater for fifteen months, found my appetite restored, my food sat easy on my stomach, I grew up to my former dimensions, my flesh became firm, as it had been 20 years before, and the blood in my cheeks of a good red.

65. A gentlewoman in my house, far advanced in years, of a tender constitution, and in a bad state of health, has for near 2 years taken a small glass of Tarwater every morning, and often another about noon ; the physician who has attended her

for 8 years, and consented to Tarwater, has frequently expressed his great surprize at her being so much better, tho' she takes several other kinds of physick by his direction ; her apothecary's bill was last year reduced to less than half.

66. A servant of mine was so ill of a cold, and violent cough, that he was going to take to his bed. I ordered him to drink about half a pint of Tarwater warm'd ; he then set about his business, and I have not heard him complain since. This morning a gentleman, who, by a cold taken in February last, was apprehensive of a decay, told me that his fears were over by drinking Tarwater for three weeks ; a physician, who studied under the great Boerhaave, has prescribed it to 5 of his patients. T. S.

67. A letter from the same, Nov. 30.

A gentlewoman near Limerick, suffered so much by the scurvy, that she was just stay'd alive, and had almost lost the use of her limbs. I advised Tarwater, which a physician approving, she drank for some time ; now the scurvy-splotches are perfectly healed, and she is recovering daily the use of her limbs.

68. A young gentlewoman, related to Mr. Atkins near Mallow, had a great swelling in her side, lost her stomach, was so extremely thin and pale, that some physicians gave her up. By Dr. Connell's advice, she drank Tarwater for some months, and perfectly recover'd.

69. In Curryglass, 14 have drank Tarwater, and every one received benefit. The wife of Henry Evans, mason, was cured of an hereditary asthma, under which she laboured for 2 years, and could not lie down in bed.

70. Henry Evans in the great frock took

took a violent cold, and every winter since has kept his jaws tied up in handkerchiefs; he drank Tarwater, the pain in his jaws is gone, and he bears cold as well as ever. *Lawrence Linban*, a paper maker, had a most deadly cough, and was thought in a decay, he drank Tarwater, and is now as well as ever.

71. Mr. *Grips* drinks it for an hereditary asthma; when he is regular in it, some splashes break out in his body, and the asthma is quite gone; but when he is careless the splashes disappear, and the difficulty of breathing returns.

72. Mrs. *Rolleston*, who nurses her child, drank Tarwater, it succeeded well with her; she had a vast flow of milk, and her child was extremely well; our physicians here prescribe Tarwater frequently.

*Curryglafs.*

*Tho. Squire.*

73. I have been these 20 years past grievously afflicted with violent pains and swellings in my limbs, and for want of my natural rest, was reduced to very great weakness, I lost my stomach to that degree, that I may say, *My soul abhorred all manner of meat, and I was even hard at death's door.* I was reduced to that unhappy state, which the Bp of *Cloyne*, in his treatise, calls *tedium vitae*, a weariness of life, that I could have blest the means that would have finish'd my days; and no one would have given 6 months purchase on my life.

74. I was also afflicted with a violent scorbutic humour, which broke out to a great degree in my face; on reading the *Magazine*, where the virtue of Tarwater is set forth, I began with it, and tho' I have only drank about 5 gallons, it has not only perfectly cured me of the scurvy, but has

also intirely eased me from all my pains; restored me to my former strength, a good stomach, and a great flow of spirits; that now (I thank God) I may justly say, I am a man again.

*Henry Parsons*, attorney in *William Street*, *Dublin*, July 26, 1744.

75. A letter from the rev. Mr. *Bernard Ward*, at *Belfast*, July 23, 1744.

Inclosed I send you the cases of 3 persons, who have received benefit by the use of Tarwater, which is in great and universal repute here.

76. No 1. *Wm Garwy* of *Kirdonnell*, in the C. of *Down*, farmer, aged about 40 years, had been many years afflicted with the rheumatism. in May last it seized his loins, and entirely disabled him from doing any work; he told me he had used turpentine without success; I recommended Tarwater, 4 quarts of which so effectually removed his disorder, that, to use his own words, he was able to lift a hog'shead sack full of corn, and to put it on his horse.

77. No 2. Mrs. *Small*, of *Knockbreda*, in the C. of *Down*, about 16 years of age, had been troubled with a pain in her side, shortness of breath, a palpitation of the heart upon the least motion, and an entire loss of appetite; her mother was apprehensive of a consumption; yet by drinking Tarwater about a fortnight, is in perfect health.

78. No 3. A son of the rev. *Annesly Baile*, of *Comber* in the C. of *Down*, at the age of 2 years, was active and sprightly, he was then seized with a fever, which deprived him of the use of his limbs; his joints grew large, and his belly hard, like a rick-

etty



etty child ; his father made him drink Tarwater, a wine glass full 3 times a day, and in 3 weeks time, he quite recovered.

*Bernard Ward.*

79. A letter from the rev. Mr. *Usher*, of *Maryborough*, Aug, 23, 1744.

*Margaret Large* of *Coolbanagher* in *Queen's* county, being about 43, laboured under a violent cough, and oppression on her stomach for 10 years, without intermission, so that she lost her appetite, her body was emaciated, and her spirits low ; but by drinking Tarwater 6 weeks constantly every morning, the cough and oppression on her stomach were intirely removed, her appetite restored, her spirits became brisk, and her whole constitution wonderfully improved.

80. A letter from Mr. *Henry Gervais* of *Lismore* in the county of *Waterford*, Sept. 15, 1744.

Mr. *Bryen*, who is an attorney in lord *Burlington's* manor-courts, after riding 5 miles about 2 years since, without a great coat, in a winter's night of very heavy rain, and so fuddled, that when he came home, he could not put off his cloaths, threw himself on his bed, where he slept about 6 hours, and when he awoke, was in an high inflammation, and not able to speak. A worthy physician, by bleeding, blistering, &c. brought some present relief ; but a violent cough soon ensued, with a grievous pain in his side, spitting of blood, and large sweats ; so that having suffered much, and gone thro' the apothecary's shop for a course of 6 months, and exhausted his little substance, the physicians in a consultation pronounced that he would die tabid. The patient in despair had

recourse to Tarwater, by which he recovered his appetite and rest, was free from the pain in his side, and as well in health as he could wish.

81. Mr. *Gervais* mentions his own case thus : ' I was under great apprehensions from the reliques of the *Influenza*, which seized me in a most heavy manner, and left an acute pain in my head, violent palpitation in the heart, a constant pulsation in the brain, and spasms thro' my whole body. *Flagberty cum sociis* had me in hand for months ; gum-pills and spirits of vitriol I almost lived upon, and to no purpose ; but now by the use of Tarwater, I am, (God be praised) restored to good spirits and health.'

82. He also mentions the case of Mrs. *C* — of *Limerick*, who was many years afflicted with a scurvy in so high degree, that she had been quite flay'd from head to foot, so that for many months she lay in cere cloths, and could not turn in her bed, but as she was help'd by the sheets ; all remedies proved ineffectual, but by drinking Tarwater for 10 weeks, she has got a new skin, her sores have ceased to run, and her health is thoroughly retrieved.

Mr. *Gervais* sent the following case drawn up by Dr. *Wm C* — of *Mallow*.

83. *Correl Daly* of *Ardprior* in the C. of *Cork*, aged about 28, on exercising severely in the year 1742, was seized with a violent cough, streightness in his chest, difficulty of respiration, and discharged large quantities of blood from his lungs ; in which state he remained near 6 months, without other assistance than what his poor neighbours could administer ; till at length quite emaciated, and in a hectic state, with flushings in his face, succeeded

succeeded by rigors and constant night-sweats, he applied to the neighbouring physicians, who recommended a course of pectoral and balsamick medicines, with tincture of jesuits bark, and a milk-diet, which regimen he strictly observed above 10 months; when finding little amendment, and no hopes of recovery, he applied to me; I recommended his continuing the same method for some time longer, which he submitted to, without further benefit, than that his sweats somewhat abated. He was now set down as incurable, when hearing so much of the virtues of Tarwater, and willing to try it, as every thing else failed, I recommended the constant use of it to him; at first it disagreed prodigiously, inducing frequent nausea's, sickness in the stomach, and a lax, which in his condition I was very apprehensive of; I made some lighter, which, in a few days, was so reconcileable to his stomach, that he took it in large quantities, and is now perfectly recovered from *all* his symptoms, only a small cough, which he is subject to, on taking cold, or any irregularity.

84. *Letter from Mr. Wm Peacocke, merchant in Abbey-street, Dublin, Sept. 22, 1744.*

My brother Marmaduke Peacocke, merch. for several months had a great cough, little appetite, and a great lowness of spirits; he could not walk without sweating, and was very much emaciated; he applied to some physicians to no purpose, but drinking Tarwater morning and evening, in less than 3 weeks, was as heal as ever, and in great spirits.

85. Last spring I had the gout coming on me; I was seized with cramps in my legs most violently for

several nights, lost my appetite, my stomach was faint and weak, with great tenderness in my feet; these are always forerunners of the gout with me. My brother persuaded me to drink Tarwater, morning and evening, and it occasioned great perspiration in my feet, and in 3 nights I had no cramps, no tenderness in my feet, I had a good appetite and digestion, and was every other way very well, drinking it so for 2 months, afterwards only every morning, and am now (thank God) as well as any one.

*Wm Peacocke.*

86. *A Letter from Stephen Bernard, Esq; member of parliament, from Youghall, Oct. 2, 1744.*

I have taken Tarwater 3 months, morning, noon, and night, half a pint each time warm; which has relieved me from a sickness in my stomach, which I had for 6 years past, and so severely the two last, that scarce a day pass'd without violent heavings, at least twice, and a loathing of all sustenance; which reduced me so low, as utterly disabled me from using any exercise. I was also subject to a giddiness, which encreased, notwithstanding a course of vomits; in less than a week after I drank Tarwater, I found my stomach relieved, I had an appetite, and the giddiness is almost gone.

*Ste. Bernard.*

P. S. A servant of mine for years was troubled with a consumptive cough, and is quite recovered by Tarwater.

87. *From Charles Coote, Esq; member of parliament, Coothill, October 6, 1744.*

I drink Tarwater constantly; my disorder is nervous, and I have gravel to a great degree, but without pain.

I discharge great quantities by urine, and my stomach, digestion, and whole frame, used to be greatly disordered when I was loaded with it, the use of this water not only discharges it, but I find myself better in spirits, and digestion.

88. Mr. *Donaldson*, of *Cavan*, long afflicted with the gout in an extreme degree, drank Tarwater some months, and from a close confinement to his bed and chair, is now walking about the streets, and does not remember when he was able to do so for many years past.

89. Mr. *Waren*, agent to alderman *Dawson*, was asthmatick, and seemed to be consumptive to the last degree, but recovered of all his complaints, solely by the Tarwater.

90. A poor fellow of this town, asthmatick, and almost incapable of any action, is now restored by it.

91. My brother in law, Mr. *Pratt*, who has been extreamly ill many years of scorbutick disorders, and has in vain drank all the waters in *Europe*, drank weak Tarwater a good while, (the strong disagreeing with him) and is quite recovered. *Cba. Coote.*

92. A letter from Wm Ryves, Esq; from Castlejane near Tipperary, October 11, 1744.

My tenant *John Cornick*, a mower and plowman, by heats and cold, acquired a cough, which continued on him several months, and sometimes disabled him from following the plow; but about *March* last, he was obliged to keep his bed, notwithstanding he had the advice of two physicians; and being worn away to a perfect skin and bone, they pronounced him very near his end. About *July* last, he took Tarwater, twice or thrice a day; for

the first week he coughed prodigiously, and brought up great quantities of fetid corruption; every day after, his cough abated, and his stomach increased, and at the end of 3 weeks drinking, he was able to walk half a mile with pleasure, which he did every morning between his first draught, and breakfast; and in 5 weeks time, had gathered a good deal of strength; in short, his cough is gone, and he finds himself hearty.

93. *Edw. Moore*, Esq; of *Moore's Fort* in the C. of *Tipperary*, was extreamly out of order, and by the physicians judged to have an ulcer in his bladder, and was preparing to go to some waters proper for him; he had quite lost his stomach and complexion, but by the use of Tarwater for 5 or 6 weeks, is not only quite well of his disorder, but has recovered his stomach and complexion. My wife has drank it for some time for a little barking cough, which she has had these 3 years past, which afflicts her most as she gets up in a morning; she has found such an abatement of it, that I do not doubt but in a little time she will be quite free. *Wm Ryves.*

94. A letter from Wm Connor, Esq; from Bandon in the C. of *Cork*, October 23, 1744.

There are many instances in this neighbourhood of persons benefited by it, but none more so than one of my daughters, who had laboured under a kind of hysteric and nervous disorder for some months, which afflicted her with a palpitation and difficulty of breathing, insomuch that she frequently imagined she was expiring; she is now (God be praised) quite free, and attributes her cure solely to that most excellent remedy, Tarwater.



95. My brother, Mr. *George Connor*, had been several years afflicted with a scorbutick disorder, and finding no relief from the physicians, went to *England*, where he used the bath and other waters, without any benefit; upon his return to *Ireland* his distemper became so violent, that his physicians were for sending him to *Bath* again, when by chance he met with *Siris*; this put him on making and drinking Tarwater, which quite recovered him in 6 weeks. His case was wonderful, his body was all over one continued sore, he was obliged to shift himself 4 times a day, and his shirts stood on end, stiffened by corruption; his limbs and body were wrapped up in linnen spread with suet, to keep any thing from touching him. The sharp humours used to run thro' his cloaths on the ground. He could neither digest, sleep, or rest. The first effect of the Tarwater was that an incredible number of blind boils appeared in the skin over his whole body, and very sore, by which the morbidick humour was driven to the outward parts; but by constant drinking these boils grew milder, and by degrees healed and dried away, so that in less than 6 weeks he was quite easy. On first taking the water, he was very, coltise for several days, which frightened him, and made him take some gentle opening purge. But this rather retarded his cure, for where the Tarwater throws out the venom into the skin, it should not be disturbed by the revulsion of purgatives, tho' such casting out may naturally produce a coltiveness. It is not to be reckoned a bad effect, but a good symptom; it shews that nature is throwing out the bad humours thro' the skin, and not by stool; and when

it has sufficiently done that service, in which it ought not to be disturbed, the body will naturally return to its usual discharges.

96. *A letter from Cornelius Townsend, of Betsborough in the C. of Cork, Esq; October 30, 1744.*

About 15 years ago, and about the 32d of my age, after a most remarkable good stock of health from my infancy, I was first seized with a violent heart-burn, and soon after had slight fits of the rheumatism, which in a few years became very violent, and then getting the better of my often envied good constitution, a most inveterate scurvy appeared, particularly on my temples and forehead; my fits of the rheumatism were in the beginning irregular, and did not hold above a month or six weeks at a time, but about eight years ago they became regular, and used to confine me to my bed during the whole winter and spring, and always began with a light fever, and terrible head ach, which generally held for the first 9 or 10 days. I have been likewise subject to a scurvy in my gums, and in spite of all my care, apt to get cold, which frequently afflicted my lungs and glands, and occasioned a deafness; about 3 years ago I began the use of Tarwater, which within a month carried off the heart burn; and soon after the scurvy in my gums, temples, &c. began to lessen, and about that time twelvemonth was quite gone; it has also carried off the inflammation of my glands, and I am not so apt to get cold, or be very deaf as formerly; and when thro' carelessness I get either, I am under no apprehension about any ill consequences, finding that *honest Tarwater* does the business. My  
fits

sits of the rheumatism, since the use of Tarwater, have indeed been as tedious, with as great a weakness in my knees and ancles as ever, so that I am not able to stand, but not near so painful, and I am almost free from the fever and head ach. I am now under a course of bathing my legs in warm Tarwater, by direction of the bp of *Cloyne*, and hope in some time to be able to give you an account of its success. From the beginning of my disorders, I have had such a costive constitution, that I seldom had the benefit of nature, without the help of electuaries, or some other openers; my fundament was so inflamed with piles, that I was very apprehensive of a fistula, my flesh was bloated and tender; I was subject to a palpitation of the heart, cramps, meagrim, &c. from all which (I thank God) I am quite free by the constant use of Tarwater only.—The famous Dr. Barry put me under a course of rhubarb and sulphur, for upwards of 2 years; and other physicians since put me under different courses of physick for my rheumatick and other disorders, but all to no purpose.

97. A gentlewoman in my family, who had a paralytick disorder, and the scurvy, to a great degree, with many disorders in her stomach, for which she stuck to the *Mallore* waters for several seasons, and was only for the present relieved thereby; and my wife, who has been tormented with the scurvy, hystericks, &c. are both recovered by Tarwater.

98. One Mrs. *Bustid*, who lives near *Killmallock*, had a heart-burn for some years to such a degree, that, in her strainings, she would frequently discharge blood out of her stomach;

she was subject to a racking pain in her bowels, had a canker in her mouth and her teeth were all loose; she was given over by all the skilful persons in her neighbourhood; but, hearing of the benefits I received by Tarwater, began to drink it, and soon found herself much better. This an apothecary in *Killmallock* hearing sent her word, she was ill advised to take it that way, and ordered her to mix her tar with hot water, which she accordingly did; but it operated so violently by purging up and down, that she was at death's door; however, she afterwards found, that taking it, even that way, did her vast service; she is now perfectly recovered, and firmly resolved never to take the advice of an apothecary again. I could mention several more, who, by my advice, in various disorders, received very great benefit, or were perfectly cured by drinking Tarwater.

*Corn. Townsend.*

99. Communicated by a physician in Nov. 1744.

“I was consulted by a man 35 years old, who from a pleuritic disorder, imperfectly cured, fell into a hectic fever, attended by a desperate cough, with this dreadful symptom, an ulcer in the left lobe of his lungs, which plainly appeared, from his being at first attacked by the pleurisy in the left side, from almost an impossibility of lying on the right, from a vast heaviness, and suffocating burthen in the left part of his thorax; till relieved in some measure by throwing up a vast quantity of fetid purulent matter, intermixed with pure blood, (I may say) *sanguine spu-moso*, so justly called by the great *Hippocrates*; which excretion generally happened to him once a month or there

thereabouts, and which had always like to have suffocated him. This evacuated pus must have been gathered in its proper vesicula, which being external in the lobe was usually broke by a strong fit of coughing, or some other violent shock of nature. Upon further examination, I found he had cold nocturnal sweats, and almost all the signs of the *facies Hippocratica*. The prognostic I formed was very doubtful, as his case was both dangerous and difficult. I ordered him immediately to drink Tarwater, and as the indication required, I prescribed some balsamic and detergent pills, besides some stomachic medicines, as he had almost entirely lost his appetite; I also ordered him to take a ride, morning and evening. I can now with great truth and pleasure assure you, that he is quite recovered; which I must in justice attribute to the Tarwater, the other medicines prescribed before having little or no effect. I have tried this medicine of Tarwater in 2 cases of the asthmatic kind, and 3 acute ones, in all which it had wonderful success."

100. *Extract of a letter from Henry Edgeworth of Lizard in the C. of Longford, Esq; member of parliament, dated Nov. 10, 1744.*

"Few men of my age and temperate way of life, have been more afflicted with the rheumatism; especially in the winter season, and in changeable weather: and after the violence of the fits abated, it frequently and almost these 14 years past, about which period of time I was first attacked by that inveterate enemy, left me in a worse condition; even pain cannot in my apprehensions in any sort be compared to the excessive lowness

and dejection of spirits I laboured under till I took Tarwater; and tho' my affairs permitted me not to use it regularly, yet it has not only mitigated the violence of the rheumatism, but I have not had the least return of any dejection of spirits this whole winter.

101. *From Charles Tottenham, of Tottenham Green in the C. of Wexford, Esq; member of parliament, Nov. 18, 1744.*

"Wm Cooper, my servant, on *Tuesday Oct. 9.* fell ill of a violent fever, stitch and pleurisy; on *Wednesday* and *Thursday* was bled, his blood very bad each time; on *Wednesday* evening he began to drink warm Tarwater, and on *Thursday* at noon had drank above 2 quarts, when his stitch and fever left him, he sweated greatly; he continued free from pain till *Saturday* morning, at which time his stitch returned, his lungs so greatly oppressed, that he could scarce breath, his inside very sore, and his head very painful. On *Saturday* evening a blister was put on between his shoulders; he continued very ill till *Sunday* evening, at which time his blister began to run, on which he had immediate ease; he continued the Tarwater, and by 11 o'clock that night, his head was free from pain, his stitch and cough gone, slept well that night, and on *Oct. 20.* was as hearty and as heal as ever. He is near 60, has had a violent cough, and bad lungs 30 years past, until now.

102. *From Mr. Geo. Johnson, a young officer in the army, Nov. 25, 1744.*

"I was greatly afflicted with the bloody-flux from *Feb. 1742-3*, to the beginning of *May, 1744*, the greatest part of which time, I was so ill, that I was not expected to live, nor could I eat or drink any thing that would

stay



stay upon my stomach ; nor had I any ease during the whole time, but when I used to ride, which I did 3 or 4 weeks successively, 3 or 4 times during my illness, on business ; a week or 6 days after which, I was tolerably easy, and could eat pretty hearty, after which tho' I took several things, and by the best advice, I still grew worse. I took Tarwater, once a day, for near a week, in the beginning of April, 1744, but it would not stay on my stomach, and made me sick ; so I left it off for about 3 weeks ; but continuing to grow worse, I again took it in May following with success, twice a day, and with a dose or two of rhubarb, after 3 weeks, ( I thank God ) was perfectly well.

103. *From the Rev. Mr. Tho. Collier, of Aunfield, in the C. of Wexford, Jan. 24. 1744.*

Catherine Dobbin, a poor woman, had for 3 years been troubled every summer with very ugly inveterate blotches and ulcers, especially on her face ; I advised her to a course of marsh, or wild celery-tea, which gave some relief for the present, but she grew worse every summer, the ulcers increasing in Number and size. Just after I had read *Siris*, she came to my door, her face and body swelled to a monstrous size, hardly any eyes to be seen, and in as loathsome a way as ever I saw one in the worst stage of the small-pox. She told me she was dying, and begged a little charity : I had some Tar-water just made, and gave her 2 quarts, desiring her to drink it, and come to me again ; I did not see her for a week, and then she told me, she had tried to take the water, and it was so cold on her stomach, that it almost killed her ;

that instead of comforting her, it threw her into a cold sweat ; I advised her to go home and take it as warm as she could bear it ; she did so, and in a week came to me for more. By that time, the swelling had much subsided, and she could see with both her eyes. I gave her a gallon of water more, and in a month she came to me quite well, no swelling in any part of her body, only a redness in her face just as after the small-pox. She continued well till last summer, when she had a small return of the disorder, which was cured the same way, and is at this time seemingly well. The cure was prodigious, and what I esteemed almost miraculous, because I had known the woman's ailment a long time, which I judge to be a scurvy, occasioned by poor living, and attended by a dropsy.

104. The next case I tried was a violent pain in the stomach, which had greatly troubled a young gentlewoman 12 months, for removing which, she had taken several things to no purpose ; one gallon of water cur'd her.

105. A third patient was *Edmund Dunfy*, an old labouring man, so weakened by a long dry cough, that I took him to be on the extreme verge of life. He was so weak, that he was assisted in coming a quarter of a mile to my house, and was obliged to stop at every fourth step : I gave him a pitcher of Tarwater, and in about a month he came to know if I had any work for him, his cough quite removed, and with a ruddy healthy countenance ; he has been since labouring constantly.

106. A servant-maid in this parish, was seized about a month past with a violent itching all over her body, which

which in 4 days broke out all over her in watery pustules, and threw out a scalding sharp corroding liquor, which burnt the skin wherever it touched it; so that the poor creature was almost distracted: with great persuasion she took Tarwater, and by the time she had finished 2 bottles the pustules disappeared, and she is now free from all the symptoms, and in very good health.

107. *A letter from Col. Nich. Loftus, of Loftus-hall in the C. of Wexford, Esq; member of parliament, Feb. 1. 1744.*

I have drank Tarwater these 3 months past, half a pint morning and evening, with great success; my disorder was severe pains in all my bones and joints, which I believe were rheumatick, and was very apprehensive of the 'sciatica, having had a severe fit of it last spring. I had a stiffness in my limbs, that made walking very uneasy, which I used much before. My pains are now all vanished, and I can walk as well as ever. Some have taken it in the gout, and their fits have been much lighter.

108. I have a servant who had a very violent asthma, whom I made drink it, and he hath been since surprisingly relieved. *Nicholas Loftus.*

109. *A letter from Peyton Fox, Esq; of Westmeath, Feb. 15. 1744.*

Last winter I had such a violent cold and cough, as confined me within doors for 5 months, and found not the least benefit from remedies, of which I took a vast quantity: I took Tarwater, which perfectly recovered me, and do not find I am so apt to get cold as I was, tho' by venturing too much in my garden in damp weather, I got two colds; but the Tar-

water, in a few days, carried them off. Since I first took it, I have not had the least touch of the gout, and my spirits are more lively. I look on my cure to be the more extraordinary, considering my great age, being 74.

*Pey. Fox.*

110. *A letter from the Rev. Mr. Roger Lyndon, of Ballysax in the C. of Kildare, March 26. 1744.*

Last summer, and sometimes before, I found myself under several disorders, as gravel, pains in my back, confining me some short times to my bed, great want of appetite, frequent dizziness in my head, unseasonable sleepiness, soreness in my gums, and the loosening and falling of some of my teeth, insomuch that I could scarcely chew my meat; and by such great uneasiness in my mouth, I was often reduced to broths, and other soft aliments. All these disorders, I was informed, proceeded from the scurvy; and therefore I was resolved to try Tarwater. I began to drink it last Michaelmas; and continued it to the middle of this month: I soon found benefit, and, I bless God, have not now any of the disorders before-mentioned: I can walk great lengths, have a constant and good appetite, can eat my meat, with teeth well-fastened and easy.

*Roger Lyndon.*

111. *A letter from John Usher, of Lismore, in the C. of Waterford, Feb. 4. 1744.*

A soldier in Capt. *Burston's* company, in Gen. *Frampton's* regiment, being afflicted with a spitting of blood and purulent matter, for a considerable time (which disorder was occasioned by a peripneumony, or pleurisy, about 2 years ago) and having also a violent cough, and strong night sweats, symp-

oms

toms of a deep decay, which quite emaciated him, Mr. *Cha. Smith*, apothecary in *Dungarvan*, ordered him to drink Tarwater, made with lime-water, which is a great drier of ulcers: he had not used it long, when he found his cough and other symptoms left him entirely, and in a short time he grew surprizingly fat and healthy.

112. *Rich. Kearney*, servant to Mr. *Barbon* in *Dungarvan*, was for many years afflicted with a cough and difficulty of breathing, which arrived at length to a confirmed and violent asthma, so that upon the least pressure of the atmosphere he was constantly visited with his disorder, and disabled from rendering his master any service: about 4 months since, he began to drink Tarwater, and had not used it above a fortnight, when, to his surprize, he found a great heat and scalding in his urine, and a *Gonorrhœa* of a most virulent colour ensued, which so frightened him, that he left off drinking the Tarwater; but upon his urging him, he again took to it, and in about a month, not only these symptoms left him entirely, but, in a great measure, his cough and asthma. He still uses the Tarwater, and is much recruited in strength and flesh, so that last week he walked up a steep hill nimbly in a few minutes, which, he assured me, before he took the Tarwater, he could not crawl up in an hour. Mr. *Smith* the apothecary ask'd if formerly he had not some venereal taint, which he did not deny, and he attributes the above symptoms to some remains of that distemper, which the Tarwater carried off; it wrought him, and still doth, much by urine.

*John Usher.*

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113. Mr. *Usher* also communicated the effects and virtues of spruce-beer, which he justly reckons to be a kind of Tarwater, both proceeding from the juices of the fir kind: he writes "that having an estate on the coast of *Waterford*, from whence many of his tenants go yearly to the fishery of *Newfoundland*, he observed, that such of them as went out meagre and pale, like skeletons, and troubled with itch and scurvy, always returned fat, with ruddy complexions, and good health, notwithstanding their fatigues there; and on enquiry found that they all attributed their recovery to their constant drinking spruce beer; for as soon as they arrive there, they cut the branches of the black spruce fir, and therewith make their beer; this they drink during their stay, and in their return, bring great quantities of the branches with them to make spruce-beer after their arrival, which they are very fond of; and notwithstanding they live on salt provisions many months, and have frequently thick fogs on the banks, yet they are no way troubled with scurvy, itch, or any eruptions whatsoever. They say farther, that the people are very prolific, and that no part of the world has so many children as *St. John's* in *Newfoundland*, considering the number of inhabitants; probably from the constant use of spruce-beer, or their living so much on fish, or both."

114. *The way of their making spruce-beer.*

Let 16 gallons of water be well boiled for 3 or 4 hours in a pot, along with a good quantity of the branches of the black spruce fir cut into short pieces, as much as will fill the pot; it is boiled enough, when the bark of the



the spruce slips readily off the sticks between your fingers. The spruce is then taken out, and a gallon of molasses put to the water, which is sufficient to make a 60 gallon cask, but a greater quantity of molasses for a larger cask. The water is to be well stirred, and well boiled once after the molasses is in ; it must then be put into the cask, which is to be filled up with cold water, to be well stirred with a stick at the bung, and, by the help of old grounds remaining in the cask, will immediately ferment ; next day the bung is to be closed up, and the day after will be fit for use. But if you have no grounds of a former brewing, then put a small quantity of barm to it, which will in one night sufficiently ferment it ; next morning close it up, and it will be fit for use the day following, and hold good a fortnight. If you would make spruce-beer to last several months, you must add a greater quantity of molasses, 2, 3, or more gallons, and more spruce to give it a stronger body.

115. *Letter from the said Mr. Usher,*  
April 6, 1745.

I have been, for 12 or 14 years, troubled with a disorder in my nerves ; it came on gradually, but at last to such a pitch, that there was seldom a night that I have not been obliged to get out of my bed, and walk about the room for some minutes, before I could compose myself to rest ; especially on the least excess in drinking, or the least cold. As I was ready to drop asleep, my mind used to be extremely agitated, in a manner not to be described : I used to feel at the same time a thrilling down my thighs ; and a desire to stretch, as in an ague fit, which relieved me for a moment :

the bed was then intolerable, nor could I find relief but by getting up and walking about, tho' I have bore it with the utmost pain for above an hour. I was at *Spa*, and took all the nervous medicines from divers physicians to no purpose. Dr. *Lacky's* advice concurred with my own inclinations to drink Tarwater ; and I solemnly affirm, that in a fortnight's drinking it, I never had a single relapse from that day to this, which has made my life comfortable, as I used before to dread the approach of night. This I the rather insist on, as I am very sure I never drank a drop of good Tarwater : for a cask of tar I had from *Cork*, I am now confident, had been all used before.

116. *P. S.* Two women have been cured of an inveterate *Fluor albus*, even by bad Tarwater, and in a short time.

117. *Letter from Mr. Lewis Loyd of*  
*Kinsale, March 8, 1744.*

A poor labourer of this town, rendered incapable to get his bread, by a most violent itch in both legs ; after the advice of doctors, surgeons and apothecaries, and salivation had proved ineffectual, being advised to rub the sores with Tarwater, was in 3 or 4 days perfectly cured.

118. *Letter from the Rev. Dean Isaac*  
*Gervais, of Lismore, May 8, 1745.*

In *July* last, I advised a sister of mine, now in years, who had been long afflicted with an inveterate rheumatism, to the use of Tarwater, and in a few months she was able to walk without sticks, tho', for a long time, she could not go across her room.

119. That is not all, she had besides for near 2 years been grievously tormented with a cruel and unquenchable

able thirst, to which the other disorder was nothing, in comparison. It was become the plague of her life. She had done all that could possibly be devised to get the better of it; but in vain, till, by the blessing of God on the use of Tarwater, her thirst gradually lessened; so that, at present, she is perfectly easy, and so effectually cured, as she seems almost to have lost her appetite to drink itself.

*If. Gervais.*

120. *Catherine Cardy* near *Blessington* in the C. of *Wicklow*, 41 years of age, troubled with a cough, stuffing in her chest, and shortness of breath, all the winter of 1742, not free from these complaints in the summer of 1743, and feeling them more severely in the following winter; but in the spring of 1744, affected with them all in the highest degree, labouring under a difficulty of breathing, without appetite, not being able to work or walk, or lie down at night, getting little or no sleep, her body emaciated, her breast, neck and face, swelled; and her lips black, and scarce able to speak. She began with Tarwater April 4, 1744, and thought herself recovered with drinking 6 bottles; but finding a streightness in her breast, after leaving it off 4 days, she took 2 bottles more, and became quite well. The first morning she spit a quart of tough phlegm, and ropy matter, with much coughing. She coughed for 10 mornings after with less and less spitting: in this time her complaints wore off: in 3 days she could lie down in her bed, and sleep all night; her stomach came to her, and she recovered her strength, and freedom of breathing; so that, on the eighth day, she walked a mile up hill, and back again, without being disordered,

and towards the latter end of *May*, was able to bear the fatigue of nursing a foundling child, left at her door, and walked with it seven times in that month, to and from *Blessington*, which is a journey of more than 3 miles. She passed the last winter and spring without any disorder but a cough, at odd times, upon catching cold; which was always removed by a bottle or two of Tarwater.

121. *James Dooling*, near the same town, labourer, aged about 35, taken with a fever in the spring of 1744, which increased with a looseness, that his life was despaired of; on the 9th day he took Tarwater, on the 13th the fever turned: in a week more he got out of bed, and walked about his cabin; in another week he went abroad, and soon after to his work, looking clear and ruddy, and of a healthful countenance.

122. *Anne Osborne*, near *Blessington*, about 50 years old, troubled with stitches at times, for 4 or 5 years, kept her bed for 3 months in the winter of 1743, labouring under stitches, a cough, and shortness of breath, without appetite or sleep, and worn away to skin and bone, drank Tarwater, night and morning, the beginning of April 1744, and with 8[quart] bottles was perfectly recovered. At first, she threw up a great deal of foul stuff from her stomach: in 3 takings her stitches left her; she soon recovered her appetite and rest; and was able to lie down in bed; her cough ceased, she gained strength and flesh, and walked abroad in 3 weeks time.

123. *Eleanor Dowling*, about 35, troubled with a hard cough, for 10 years together, worn away by it greatly, and troubled with a wheezing

## 28 *Regulates and assuages Fits of the Gout,*

ing and shortness of breath, by drinking Tarwater in the summer of 1744, all the above complaints wore off equally to her surprize and joy.

124. *Joan Ardle*, a gatherer of rushes for candles, stuffed up and choaked with a cough, without stomach or sleep, and her husband affected much the same way, both cured by 2 bottles of Tarwater : they are aged persons.

125. *Lawrence Kane*, pedlar, about 50 years old, laboured under an ague, about *Hollandtide*, 1743, which was followed by a severe cough, that held him for 6 months ; he drank but 2 bottles of Tarwater in *May*, 1744, and found himself perfectly recovered.

126. *Bryan Mee*, troubled with a pain in his stomach, and loss of appetite, cured with 1 bottle of Tarwater.

127. Three children in one family, between 6 and 8 years old, took the small pox in the summer of 1744, and came very safe thro' it, without any other preparation or medicine than Tarwater, which they had drank constantly from *April* foregoing, and continued it during the whole time of their illness, except about 2 days, when the pocks in their mouths and throats became sore, and broke, and smarted by the Tarwater ; they have gone on drinking Tarwater ever since without any reluctance to, or mischief from it ; on the contrary, they cry, if, by any accident, they do not get it at the usual times ; and by the constant use thereof, one of them hath been kept from the returns of a threatening fever, to which he was subject, and had been seized by it 3 times in 6 months. Another was troubled with lumps under his jaw, and other glandular swellings, which since his drink-

ing Tarwater, are almost gone ; and all three have better stomachs and more spirits, and are much freer from coughs and colds than formerly.

128. *A letter from a gentleman of character and integrity*, June 18, 1745.

What Mr. *Arthur Hill* told you, of the benefit I have received by Tarwater, is so much fact, that I now enjoy a very good state of health.

129. About 25 years ago, I had the first regular fit of the gout, which used to lay me up frequently after, in Autumn and Spring especially ; but never affected me higher than my feet or ancles, untill 1738, when I was seized with a most violent fever, which occasioned my being severely blister'd on my legs, which gave the humours a course that way, and being mixed with gouty matter, prevented the sores, made by the blisters, from healing, tho' all care was taken by the physicians for that end : after I recovered from my fever, it was thought that this prevented the regular fits of the gout, which I used to have, and made it fly about my body and head, from whence indigestion, lowness of spirits and sweatings followed ; and at length I used to be frequently seized with a swimming in my head, especially after eating, which would continue until I had lighten'd my stomach by puking : in hopes to get better relief from these disorders from the physicians in town, I went to *Dublin* in 1742, and by the directions of two there, justly esteemed for their knowledge, I went thro' a course of gentle physick, and was forbid every thing of nourishment, but light, white meats, and a little port wine, until Summer 1743, when they ordered me a course of *Spa* water with exercise. These rules I observed pretty



pretty carefully, and found myself a good deal reliev'd from my lowness of spirits, and the giddiness in my head, until the Autumn following, when I had a severe return of both, to which, I believe, my great hurry and fatigue contributed not a little. This put me under a necessity of returning to my course of physick during the Winter 1743, and until May 1744, when I read the worthy bishop's treatise on Tarwater, whereupon I altered my intention from *Spa*, to Tarwater, and drank about half a pint in the morning, and as much in the evening, not eating before or after for 2 hours, which soon produced a regular and pretty sharp fit of the gout in my feet and ancles, and seem'd to warm me, and increase my sweatings. In about 2 months after I had a return of the gout, but much gentler, and my sweatings abated. Then I had a violent itchiness over all my body and limbs, which was followed by blotches and eruptions on the skin. In Autumn I got some cold, and I believe had lived too freely for an invalid, which was attended with a little of the swimming in my head, and disorder in my stomach; but I had so much faith in Tarwater, that I made use of it warm, instead of sack whey or tanzey and sack, which I formerly used to take, with intention to repel the gout; and thro' this last severe winter, I have continued in very good spirits, freed from the disorder of my head and stomach, tho' I have not confined my self to any regular diet; and notwithstanding I am much thinner of flesh, I find myself much stronger and abler to undergo fatigue than at any time since my fever.

130. A collier, forced to quit his

labour by an asthmatic disorder, is wonderfully recovered, tho' he used it but a fortnight.

131. A gentleman was often seized with a violent palpitation in his heart, and had taken several medicines for it, but it was rather increasing; when he made use of Tarwater about 3 weeks, and recovered.

132. I have heard of many persons being relieved by Tarwater, under very different disorders, tho' I am surprized they should; for if the common people do not immediately receive all the relief they wish and promise to themselves upon once or twice drinking of it, like a charm, they give it up, not considering what the bishop has so plainly urged; that in all chronic cases it is an alternative, that requires time to change the mass of blood.

133. *The case of Mr. John Brooks, engraver, on Cork-hill, Dublin, (now in the Strand, London) communicated by himself to Tho. Prior, Esq; June 22. 1745.*

In November 1744, he was seized with stitches, and a pleuritic fever, which continued 8 or 10 days; he was blooded once, and became better, but going abroad too soon, caught cold, and was much worse than before, being seized with more violent stitches, oppression on his chest, difficulty of breathing, with such profuse sweatings as to wet his bed cloaths twice a night, which reduced him to skin and bone, without appetite or rest, so that it was thought he could not live an hour, as he could hardly draw his breath; he was advised to go out of town to the park, and drink Tarwater, which he did at the rate of 3 pints a day for 10 days, warm, at going to bed, and getting up, and cold at other times, at 8 different

different times a day ; along with which he only took thin gruel, or chicken broth. At the end of 10 days he was able to go abroad, the Tarwater having removed his stitches, sweatings, and made him breathe as free as ever. He was advised to ride, which he did, and on the first day of riding an imposthume broke, which lay upon his lungs ; the first thing thrown up was a bag which contained the impostumated matter, which was followed by a great discharge of corrupted stuff mixed with blood : he was immediately seized with a violent spitting of blood, which continued several days, and was blooded, but still continued to drink the Tarwater as before, which he found to heal his lungs, and stop his spitting of blood, and in a fortnight's time got into so good a state of health as to be able to pursue his business, being as well as ever, and his spirits and appetite rather better.

134. Mr. *Benj. Prince*, of *Great-Britain-street, Dublin*, an officer in the excise, had for 4 years been troubled with violent pains in his back and kidneys, and frequent colics ; he used to have 2 or 3 sharp fits of the gout every year, and, after a fever, had a fixed pain in one of his arms, so that he was not able to lift it up ; he had lost his appetite, spirits, and rest ; but being advised to drink Tarwater to get him a stomach, he began in *June 1744*, with half a pint every morning. In a fortnight the pain in his arm abated, and soon after went off, so that he got the full use of it ; in less than a month's drinking he voided, by urine, a great deal of slimy matter, and in 2 or 3 months, after frequent stoppages of urine, he had great pains in his reins,

and at last discharged a stone as large as an olive-stone, which was 9 days passing ; after which he voided, at times, 25 gravel-stones, of different sizes, 9 at once, and frequently small gravel or sand all jagged and pointed, which seem'd to be broken off from a larger body of stone : he is now at ease as to his gravel, and but seldom troubled with colics, and what pain he has that way, he imputes to the remainder of the gravel, not yet discharged ; he had no suspicion, before he drank Tarwater, and discharged gravel, that his pains arose from the stone or gravel ; he thought his disorder was nothing but a colic, for which he took many things, to no purpose. He has not had the least symptom of the gout since he first drank Tarwater, which is near 15 months ago ; and he never fails to drink it constantly every day, finding that he has thereby got a good stomach, high spirits, and good sleep, and imputes all his relief to Tarwater only.

*August 15. 1745.*

135. Mr. *John Powell*, living at the glass ware-house in *Crow-street, Merchant*, had the gout for near 20 years, off and on, but in the winter, 1743, he had a violent fit which lasted 12 weeks : He was also troubled with violent pains in his bowels, for 2 years before that time, which he tho't was a colic, had no appetite, a bad digestion, and little sleep ; he had those fits of the colic twice or thrice a week, each fit lasting 24 hours with racking pains, so that it was thought that his life was in great danger. In the beginning of 1744, he was advised by his physician to drink the water, which he did, a pint a day, taken morning and evening ; in 3 weeks his pains began to abate,

bate, and in six weeks all his colic-pains went off, and he has not had the least fit ever since : he seldom fails to drink the water every morning, and resolves to continue the constant use of it, having got a very good stomach and digestion, and sleeps very well ; nor has he had the least symptom of the gout ever since he began to drink Tarwater, but the full use of his limbs, and walks as well as ever he did, and imputes all his cures to Tarwater only.

136. *James Brown*, about 10 years old, to whom the late E. of Kildare left an annuity of 20 l. for his father's faithful services under him, was miserably afflicted with the king's evil for 4 years, and being long under the care of surgeons in *Dublin*, was sent in *August* 1744, to his relations in the county of *Cork* ; he there had many running sores in his arms, hands and feet, and swellings on each side of his throat without appetite or digestion. He was immediately put into a course of Tarwater ; drank about a quart a day, a naggin [ half pint ] at a time, and after some days drinking the water, they washed his sores with strong Tarwater, and for a plaister used the oil of Tar, which was skimmed off the water, spread on linen : the effect was, that in a fortnight's time most of his sores were healed up, and swellings gone, and in less than 6 weeks time he was perfectly recovered, and now continues very well, with good appetite and spirits ; he continues to drink Tarwater, but in smaller quantities.

137. *Michael Carney* of *Protestant Rowe, Dublin*, about 16, was troubled with the king's evil 6 years, having running sores in his arms, neck, legs and body, and had been in *Mercer's*

hospital a year without benefit, and had almost lost one of his eyes by the evil ; Mr. *Prior* being informed that this boy was in danger of having his eye rotted out of his head by the evil, directed the wrist plaister to be applied to him, which was attended with such success, that in a fortnight's time, in the latter end of the year 1743, the evil was quite driven from his eye ; but the boy continuing full of running sores, and great pain in one of his arms, of which he had little use ; in *April* 1744, he gave him Tarwater to drink, a pint a day ; in a little time he discharged 2 splinters of bone, black and carious, from his arm, whereby he had immediate ease there, and continuing to drink Tarwater, and wash his sores with it also, in 2 months time all his sores healed up, his appetite and strength returned, and he was perfectly recovered, and continues very well, and now lives with Mr. *Barry Colles*, attorney, at *Stephen's Green*. — These instances, and many more shew that the king's evil, hitherto reckoned incurable, may, in a short time, by the method before mentioned, be perfectly cured.

*The rev. dean Madden, of Molesworth-street, Dublin, in July 1745, communicated the 9 following cures.*

138 *The rev. Mr. Geo. Philips, of Ann-street, Dublin*, was seized with a violent pleuritick stitch ; being then 3 miles from *Dublin*. He sent for a surgeon to bleed him ; who being long in coming, and his pain increasing, he drank freely of Tarwater, warm, and in a few hours his pain and the pulse lessened, so that when the surgeon came, it was resolved not to bleed him. He continued to drink Tarwater, and in a few days was quite well.

139. *John*



139. *John Waller* of *St. Anne's Dublin*, aged 67, had in Spring 1745, a violent cough, and a general failure of nature, that all who saw him gave him over. He drank Tarwater, and in 5 weeks went about his business, and continues hearty and well.

140. *Mrs. Stear* of *Ginnets* in the *C. of Meath*, had the worst symptoms of the most violent scurvy, her hands and arms black, so that a mortification was apprehended. She drank Tarwater for several months; it struck so virulent a humour out in her face and arms, that no one could know her: she was not discouraged, but continued to drink it, and in a few months more her skin was entirely clean. Before she drank Tarwater, she was often sick and low spirited; while she drank it, she was hearty, and has continued well many months.

141. *Mrs. Woodroff*, who lives near *Cork*, was troubled with a rheumatism in her head, dropsy in her legs, and an asthma, from which she was relieved in 2 months time by drinking Tarwater, and has been well these two years.

142. The rev. *Mr. Tho. Goodwin*, of *Dawson-street, Dublin*, was relieved of a megrim and a sleepiness by Tarwater, and continues well, *June 29. 1745.*

143. *Mr. Palma* the musician, troubled with a rheumatism, his limbs swollen so, that he could not walk, was cured in a months time.

144. The rev. *Mr. Edm. White*, of the *C. of Wexford*, was in like manner relieved of violent pains in his limbs, and a colic of a long standing.

145. *Mr. Jones* of *Grafton-street*, near 70, who had for several years a violent asthma, attended with a great

cough, and frequent spitting of blood and corruption in great quantities, finds himself greatly relieved, in every respect, by Tarwater; and he neither spit corruption, nor blood last winter.

146. *Mr. Wollaston* of *Trim*, clerk to *Mr. justice York*, asthmatick for a long time, and not able to live in *Dublin*, was relieved by Tarwater in 6 weeks time, and continues well. Thus far dean *Madden*.

147. The wife of *Mr. Wm. Fitzgerald* of *Ballyrone* in *Queen's county*, was for 7 years afflicted with violent hystericks, pain and wind in her bowels, which often deprived her of her understanding, so that she was utterly incapable of minding her affairs, and a servant was employed to prevent her laying violent hands on herself. Many physicians in *Dublin* and the country had her under care, and prescribed many medicines, which had no effect; at last she drank Tarwater, and in a few days found some benefit, and by continuing to drink it for a considerable time, she is now perfectly recovered, and free from all her ailments; the only inconvenience she had from Tarwater is, that as it gave her a good appetite, she is grown more fat and corpulent than she was before, or desires.

148. The said *Mrs. Fitzgerald* had a son, who some years ago was grievously troubled with a running fore in one of his arms, and the humour which issued out was so corrosive, that it eat into the flesh, and spread all over his arm, notwithstanding all the pains taken, and plaisters applied to stop the progress of it, whether it was a tetters or cancer, or what else she could not tell; she recollected what she had formerly been told, that a plaister of tar had been used with success on such occasions;



occasions ; accordingly, she put some tar into a pot over the fire, and added some mutton sewet to it, and having gently boiled and mixed them well together, she made a plaister and spread it thin on linen, and applied it to the running sore as hot as the child could bear ; the effect was, that in 10 days time, all the sores were healed up, and the arm entirely cured, and continued so ever after.

149. *Letter from Mr. Robert Brereton, of Burton in the C. of Cork, Nov. 9, 1745.*

I had been greatly afflicted with a jaundice for 2 or 3 years, which returned on me several times in that period, and was always attended with exceeding lowness of spirits. I was advised by my physicians to enter on a course of steel preparations ; but unwilling to undergo a tedious course of physick, I had recourse to Tarwater, from which in 5 or 6 weeks I found great relief, and at length a perfect state of health, and good spirits, which I now enjoy.

150. Mr. Ralph Crofts of Lisscarrol in the C. of Cork, above 70, was greatly emaciated, and worn out with lowness of spirits, and want of appetite, and did not expect to live out the winter 1744. He drank Tarwater, in less than a month was much better, and in 2 or 3 months perfectly recovered to as good health and spirits, as in any part of his life.

*Robert Brereton.*

151. Mr. Jocelyne Davison, of Carlow, in winter 1744, got a great cold, which caused a violent cough and inflammation in his lungs, attended with very great spitting and discharges ; he continued in this miserable state for near 4 months, without

receiving any benefit by the medicines he took, so that it was thought he could not live ; his father advised him to drink Tarwater, which he neglected to do for some time, but finding his disorder increase, he drank about half a pint warm every morning as soon as he got up, and in 6 days time, found himself much easier ; he then observed, that the Tarwater had thrown out a great rash, like an itch or scurf on the surface of his body, which alarmed him at first, and inclined him to lay it aside, but finding himself still better, and that the venom of the distemper was cast off that way, he continued the water, and in 6 weeks perfectly recovered from all his ailments.

152. Mr. David Simms, the presbyterian minister at Carlow, was long troubled with an asthma and difficulty of breathing and speaking, so that it was thought by all who saw him that he could not live long ; but by drinking Tarwater a considerable time, he is quite recovered.

*The rev. Dr. Bacon, of Lemavaddy in the C. of Derry, communicated to me, in Nov. 1745, the 3 following Cases.*

153. James Crowders, postillion to col. Forward of the C. of Donnegal, was seized with a violent asthmatick cough, swelled all over his body, and no appetite, so that it was thought he could not live : he drank Tarwater about a month, morning and evening, a large glass, which purged him violently, and perfectly cured him. Attested by Mr. Forward.

154. Mrs. Anne G — e, widow, of the C. of Derry, had an asthma 7 years ; she breathed freely in a smoky or foggy air, but was ready to expire

expire in thin sharp air. After trying many medicines, and especially goat-whey in vain, she drank Tarwater, a wine glass full at night, when a bed, and in the morning before she got up, (for it made her so sick, when taken in the day, she was obliged to go to bed) it quite cured her in 3 months.

155. The rev. Mr. S——, of the diocese of *Derry*, had an asthma of the opposite kind, could not live in foggy air, and was obliged to remove to a friend's house situated upon a hill. He drank Tarwater, and returned to his own dwelling quite well.

156. Mr. *Cunningham*, collector of *Perthpatrick* in *Scotland*, had been troubled with the gout many years, but the last two he was confined to his bed and chamber for many months, not being able to walk; having such a stiffness in his knees after the fits were over; in *May* 1743, he was advised by Mr. *Makenny* a surgeon to drink Tarwater; in a little time he was freed from a difficulty of breathing, and finding his limbs grew easier and stronger, he drank it till winter, and in the spring following had the full use of his limbs, and could walk as well as ever he did.

157. Mr. *John Milton*, confectioner in *Caple-street*, *Dublin*, was afflicted with the gout ever since he was 16, being laid up 3 or 4 times in a year, and in spring 1745, 8 weeks; it left such a weakness, that he was hardly able to crawl for a long time. He began Tarwater in *July* 1745, and drank it to the middle of *Nov.* half a pint in the morning, and the same at night; which has fully restored him to the use and strength of his limbs, and removed all his other complaints, as of great pains in his bowels, and hardness in his belly.

158. Mr. *Cavanaugh*, hatter, in *Skinner-row*, *Dublin*, was long afflicted with rheumatick pains, great swellings in his loyns, thighs and knees, so that he could not stir without difficulty; he tried every thing prescribed by physicians and surgeons, to no effect. In summer 1744, he drank Tarwater a pint a day for 6 weeks, without much benefit as to the weakness and pains in his limbs, but got much better appetite and spirits. However he persisted, and in 3 months time, he found his swellings abate, his limbs grow stronger every day, and soon after all the swellings, stiffness, hardness and pains in his limbs went off; and continuing still to drink Tarwater, he can now walk without pain, and is in great spirits.

159. Mrs. *Duggan*, midwife, in *Great Britain-street*, *Dublin*, had long a violent inveterate scurvy, with a great oppression in her chest and heart, and difficulty of breathing; she had lost all appetite, she took many things without advantage, at last Tarwater, half a pint every morning, and before she drank 3 gallons, all the scorbutick heat, and gross humours were driven out on the surface of her body, and continuing still to drink it, all the symptoms went off, she breathes freely, recovered her appetite, never was in better health or spirits, and resolves never to be without Tarwater.

160. *A Letter from Mr. James Han-*  
*ning, of Cloyne in the C. of Cork,*  
*Dec. 17, 1745.*

My daughter *Mary*, about 11 years old, had last *May* a fever, after which, she was entirely deprived of the use of her tongue and limbs, being unable to speak, stand, or put her hand

to her mouth, all her joints shaking with the palsy. She took medicines prescribed by a physician, and was often exercised in open air, but all to no purpose. We put her into a course of Tarwater the beginning of Nov. last, and she has ever since drank a quart a day, which in 5 weeks has so far recovered her, that she can speak and read plain, feed herself, stand and walk without help, and even go up and down stairs, to the amazement of all those, who had seen her carried about dumb and helpless like an infant. One of her arms continues somewhat weak, and she has a weakness too in one of her legs, but she daily grows better, and I hope Tarwater, with God's blessing, will perfect her cure.

James Hanning.

161. *An extraordinary fever cured by Tarwater, dated Dec. 20, 1745.*

A youth about 15, being seized with a fever in April 1745, an old French woman, who was appointed to attend him, with directions to give him Tarwater (the only medicine prescribed) about a pint every hour, gave him a much smaller quantity, and indulging his appetite, fed him secretly five days together, with roast beef, seasoned pye, cheese, ale, and such like diet instead of water-gruel, which alone had been ordered.

162. This unnatural diet terribly inflamed his fever, that for 13 days together, he took no nourishment of any kind but Tarwater, whereof he drank about a gallon every day, which made him sleep, and kept up his spirits in a surprizing manner. Having so long fasted, he at length took a little Naples-biscuit, with 2 or 3 spoonfuls of sack and water, which increased his fever, and disordered his head,

but he was soon quieted by Tarwater. While he regularly took this wholesome draught, he slept sound every night. But one day being disgusted at Tarwater, it was changed for sage and baulm-tea, which he drank plentifully, on which his spirits sunk, he lost his colour, and passed the night restless ; all which symptoms were removed next day by Tarwater.

163. After this, his distemper took several strange and violent turns, being sometimes attended with the worst symptoms. He was at times speechless, convulsed, and delirious. In the delirium Tarwater could not be given, he was then blistered, and the blisters not rising, he was brought with some difficulty to drink his Tarwater again, which had a speedy good effect. And in general, upon neglecting to give him Tarwater, the feverish symptoms of heat, anxiety and difficult respiration became very troublesome, being constantly heightened by omitting, and as constantly allayed by returning to drink it.

164.—This illness lasted 10 weeks, and probably such a case was never known before, for I believe no patient was ever dieted in the first days of a fever on such strong food, which nature is accustomed to loath at those seasons. But Tarwater gives an appetite even in fevers.

165—Tarwater, during its long conflict with the venom of the disease, operated in divers manners, as a cardiac, disphoretic, sudorific, emetic, carminative and paregoric, seeming to adapt itself to the several symptoms and stages of his malady, and for the most part gave him a great flow of spirits, a florid lively look, a clear well coloured tongue, with such vi-



gour in his voice and eyes, as astonished all who saw him, and knew how long he had been ill, and how little nourishment he had taken. On some days he drank greedily, even 10 or 12 quarts of Tarwater, calling for it with great impatience, even tho' it vomited him; whereas, both before and after his illness, he shewed the greatest loathing of it.

166.—In the last stage of the fever, his face and body swelled, and an eruption all over both, like cohering small-pox, which lasted a week. For 2 or 3 days of this period, he drank sparingly of Tarwater, perhaps not more than a quart a day. But during all that time, he constantly, by his own choice, held his mouth to the spout of a tea pot half filled with hot Tarwater, sucking the vapour, which, he said, he found very comfortable.

167.—At the close of the tenth week, he fell into a most copious sweat, and next day his pustules were gone, his fever left him, not spiritless, puny and pale, but as lively and hail, in appearance, as ever, tho' after an illness, that for length of time, and variety of desperate symptoms, surpassed any I remember to have met with in the history of fevers.

168.—He did not continue in this healthy state, for the very same day, he expressed earnest desire to change his bed and linen, and altho' it was done with the utmost caution, yet it gave him a fresh cold, which seized his head, and produced a new fever with a raving, that continued many weeks, in all which time, he could not be prevailed on to taken one glass of Tarwater. But at length by a proper use of asses milk, and ground-ivy, with a careful regimen, he was recovered, so that he was persuaded

to drink daily 4 glasses of Tarwater, which, with God's blessing, restored his strength, and completed his recovery.

169. Col. John Custis, of Williamsburgh in Virginia, one of the council of that province, (as he writes July 10, 1745. to Mr. Peter Collinson, of Grace-church street, London,) got a great cold, which threw him into the chin or whooping cough, which caused cruel fevers; when the cough was gone, he was troubled with a prodigious spitting, and having taken great doses of elixir of vitriol to allay his intense thirst in his burning fever, it so relaxed his salival glands, that he feared they would never come to their due tone again, nor perform their proper offices: he had studied physick more than 40 years, and had the opinion of Dr. Brown, of Maryland, deemed the greatest physician in America, that the seat of his distemper lay in his salivary glands, and that it was dangerous to stop the spitting. This he found by woful experience, having stopt it by taking an ounce of diacodium going to bed, which flung him into fevers, faintings, and many other disorders, so that he was obliged to procure the spitting again; he was once so reduced, that he could not get up when down, nor was able to put on his cloaths, and had no appetite for any sort of food. But reading one day in the magazine, (says he) I found the virtues of Tarwater, which I verily believe saved my life. I had not taken it a week, before I began to have an appetite to visitals, and continued taking it 3 months, night and morning, which miraculously restored me; so that I can now eat heartily what my palate chooses, tho'



tho' I cannot taste any thing, but salt, sweet, or sour, and I bless God, I am much mended. My spitting continues with a great discharge, but eating supports that discharge, and I resolve to take nothing that may lessen my stomach, the saliva not performing its due office, keeps my palate and throat always hot and dry, tho' I have not any fever, which the doctors tell me I must bear ; but I hope time and Tarwater will entirely free me from that uneasiness.

170. The rev. Mr. *Syon Hill*, chaplain to the work-house in *Dublin*, having had great opportunities of knowing the effects of Tarwater, both in the said house, and all over the city, where he had dispersed above 1000 gallons, has communicated the following cases :

**I***N* April 1744, after reading the treatise on Tarwater, curiosity, as well as humanity, prompted me to make trial of its effects : having it in my power, as chaplain to the work-house, to make experiments on a great many subjects, who were long troubled with cutaneous, scrophulous, and chronical disorders.

172. I picked out 4 of the most afflicted, to whom, for 4 days, I administered Tarwater : the success so surprized me, that having at that time a sore throat, I ventured to take it also ; and with some pain ( my throat being inflamed ) I got down half a pint ; after which, I could swallow without the least difficulty. From this astonishing experiment, I conceived joyful hopes of this powerful medicine ; accordingly, I took it for 3 days after, twice each day ; it so wrought me the third day, I was not able to sit, by reason of the acrimony

of the discharge. But I stuck to my medicine, and the fourth day perceived myself without any manner of complaint ; and, I thank God, have continued so ever since ; whereas, before I took Tarwater, I was subject to a head-ach, cramps, pains in several parts, especially in the kidneys, very acute from any wheel-carriage ; also an heart burning, all which disorders are perfectly vanished, and I am restored, blessed be God, as it were, to a new life, having a keen appetite, good digestion, spirits sufficient to bear me thro' all fatigues, with sound and easy sleep, tho' now on the borders of 60.

173. The great benefit I received from Tarwater, induced me, for the general good, to make it for poor people, to whom I have distributed above 1000 gallons, without any complaint yet, but with great acknowledgments.

174. I have been 8 years chaplain to the city work house, in all which time the children have been sorely afflicted with an inflammatory itch, or scurvy, which we could never get entirely cured. I often complained to the proper officer, who once assured me, all the drugs in the apothecary's shop would not cure them, whilst the children were continued on an oatmeal diet : on this frank and helpless confession, I imagined I might, without offence, try Tarwater on these poor incurables : I did so, and the success exceeded my expectations : for above a hundred children, variously affected, were relieved in 1 month's time, at my own expence ; each day administering 8 gallons, often with my own hands, with 3 pounds of liquorice-ball, cut into little bits and

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given them, to render the water agreeable.

175. At this time, *Mary Mac Culla*, a girl about 9 years old in the work-house, was confined to her bed for some time, with a most violent scurvy; she had little appetite, full of pain, because flea'd in several parts by repeated rubbings of brimstone; at last she fell into a most languishing way, taking neither sufficient food, nor rest to support nature, every day declining, so look'd on by all who saw her, as past all hope. Nevertheless, by taking Tarwater a week, she recovered wonderfully; and by continuing it, her sores soon dried and scaled off, and she looked as one out of the small-pox, her appetite returning, she revived immediately, and is at this day, May the 6th, 1745, one of the strongest children in our house.

176. *John Hall*, about 9 years old, in April 1744, could neither sleep, nor eat sufficient to keep him alive, still moaning, and complaining of his belly, which was greatly swelled; in all human probability, he would soon have died, had he not been relieved by Tarwater, which caused him to void a large quantity of worms, since which he is well: this child's mother, a nurse in the work-house, being called on by the governors for her solemn testimony, deposed, that her son soon after taking Tarwater, voided a chamber-pot full of worms, some alive; and further, that she herself was relieved, from a violent pain in her side and stomach, by a wonderful discharge both ways, caused by 2 quarts of Tarwater taken in 4 days.

177. *James Ellis*, another lad in the work house, about 13, whose hands for a long time were in a manner use-

less by a running evil, was perfectly cured by this medicine. Another boy in the same house, *George Dorton*, whose glands beneath the chin were greatly swelled and inflamed, ever oozing forth putrid matter, nauseous to all beholders, took Tarwater one month only, which dried up his sores, and is now very well.

178. A young woman named *Mary-Ann Empty*, of *Glandorkin*, about 4 miles from *Dublin*, was frightfully afflicted with an evil in many parts, especially her face; by drinking Tarwater, the ulcers in her face and jaws made a great discharge of matter, and in it a flat bone about an inch long, not quite so broad, black and jagged: after which she grew well, and is very little disfigured, and by continuing to drink Tarwater, was perfectly cured of the evil.

179. A lad, son to a servant of alderman *Kane*, *Dublin*, received a confusion in one of his hands; his cure not perfected, the fore broke out again on the back of his hand, and in his heel, both thought incurable, but submitted to Tarwater.

180. *Anne Maddin*, sister to a woman who nurses for Mr. *Putland*, had a very fore hand so swelled and inflamed, that the surgeons believed it mortified, and doomed it to be cut off; the doctor that attended, advised to try Tarwater, which she did; is well, and can use it like the other hand.

181. *Peter Eward*, stocking-weaver, to be heard of at the *Ship*, in *Old Corn-market*, *Dublin*, was so ulcerated all over his body, and many parts eat away with the scurvy, that he could not work; was in the infirmary several months in vain; so reckoned

lone'd amongst the incurables ; he took Tarwater, soon recover'd, and now follows his trade. His mother, an aged woman, long afflicted with asthma, drank it also and was relieved.

182. A gentleman, bred an apothecary, had an inflamed sore throat, that he could not swallow his spittle, and had a great lump in his neck, which he thought to get launced, lest it should choak him ; he took a little Tarwater, which relieved him immediately, and he felt no more of his frightful lump, but continues easy and well. *From this and many other instances, I find nothing ever relieved a sore throat so soon and so effectually as Tarwater.*

184. Mrs. Catharine Williams, of Dirty-lane, Thomas street, had one of her legs so long ulcerated, that it was doomed to be cut off ; yet was made perfectly sound by this powerful medicine in a short time, without any external application.

184. Mary Philips, of the work-house, for a long time had lost in a manner the use of a leg, with a constant numbness of tingling, as if it were asleep ; she could not walk on it but with difficulty ; if she stirred quick she felt most acute pain ; she was often forced to sit up in bed many an hour by night, moaning and rubbing it ; but by Tarwater that numbness is entirely gone, and tho' she walks ever so quick or long, feels no manner of pain.

185. A son of Mr. B — y, Ironmonger, in Thomas-street, was infected with a dry scurf in the scarf-skin, like a leprosy ; no advice was wanting, yet he found no relief : his mother asked the doctor, if she might

give him Tarwater, " Ay, ay, " says he, " if you have a mind to kill your son ; what nature kindly throws out, " you will certainly cork up by the " searing quality of Tarwater ; " nevertheless, Tarwater was ventured upon, with the utmost dread ; but behold in a short time the lad became perfectly clean and healthy, and still continues so.

186. Robert Scot, Tape-weaver, at Johnston's in James's street, was cured suddenly by this powerful medicine, of an old ulcer in the thigh, and relieved from a consumptive cough, which so weakened the poor man, that he was not able to work.

187. Mrs. Bermingham, at Mrs. Becks in James's street, who had for many years an acute pain in her side, supposed to be an impostume, drinking Tarwater was suddenly relieved by a discharge of an incredible quantity of matter upwards ; since which time, tho' much in years, she enjoys the comforts of life.

188. Elizabeth Wood, at Mr. Mac Guire's, the corner of Meath-street, was relieved by Tarwater from an old asthma and dropsy, with which she seemed every moment ready to expire, but is now hearty and strong.

189. William Billingsly, of the work-house, was troubled with swellings and violent pains in both his legs and feet, which suffered him neither to work, nor walk ; but after taking this medicine only one month, he grew so well and hearty, that he wove in the work-house 4 yards of check-linen each day.

190. John Rose, now in the work-house, was a long time bed-ridden, with cramps all over him, from whence the pain was so acute, that his pite-



ous moans disturbed all about him ; but by taking Tarwater one month, his disorder vanished.

191. *Robert Turnbowl*, a boy of the same house, by using this powerful medicine one month, recovered a total lameness in his legs, and now goes tolerably.

192. *John Warburghs* of the same was frightfully afflicted with an inflammation in his head, his eye-lids were so swelled, that he was led about, being as dark as one stone-blind ; on taking Tarwater 3 Days, the inflammation so cooled, that his eyes were perfectly restored ; however, his forehead, chin, and the back of his head, were covered with a large and strange erysipelas ; all which in 3 days time scaled off, and the boy continues very well.

193. *Richard Kewes* (in the house) had 2 bleeding ulcers in his thigh, which did not permit him to sleep, work or walk, both which were cured in a short time by this medicine without any outward application.

194. A gentlewoman on *Arbour-bill*, suffered a great deal by an ulcer in her leg, and after many costly experiments, was enjoined patience, as being incurable. She drank Tarwater, and was cured.

195. An officer in the barracks, for a long time felt, after walking a little way, a grievous pain in the back-sinews of his legs, but on drinking Tarwater, walks as well as ever.

196. *Matthew Lynch*, aged 70, now living at Mr. *Floyde's* in *Kilmainham*, was lately asthmatick to a great degree, and so afflicted with the piles, that he was always scared to death, whenever he had a call that way, the pain was so great ; but by the power-

ful help of Tarwater, he is not only relieved from all his old disorders, but seems to have regained new life and vigour.

197. The reader of *Christ Church*, had an hoarseness a considerable time, but it was cleared away by Tarwater.

198. Mr. *John Purcell*, son to the treasurer of the work-house, seemed for some time to be in a declining way, from a consumptive cough, and frequent stitches ; but by taking this restorative, voided several large worms, and recovered.

199. *Jane Hamilton*, being grievously afflicted with a scald-head, for which she was 4 years in *Mercer's* hospital, without effect, was admitted into the work-house, where for several years all methods of cure were pursued, to as little purpose. I gave her Tarwater, morning and evening for a month ; then I had her head washed and rubbed twice a day with a sponge dipp'd in warm strong Tarwater, made of a quart of tar, and 2 quarts of boiling water, till all the scurf came off ; the girl is now perfectly clean, healthy and strong, with a thick head of hair, as if nothing had ever ailed her, to the admiration of all, who knew her before.

200. Mrs. *Eager*, of *Mullineback*, near *Thomas-street*, threw up, from time to time, such vast quantities of blood, that she was as pale as a ghost, and so feeble, that she could scarce stand ; but taking Tarwater, became a hearty strong woman.

201. Mr. *William Dickison*, opposite *James's* church, was very deaf ; he took Tarwater, and his chin broke out, after which he could hear as well as ever.

202. Nov. 3 last, a surgeon of *Dublin*



lin paid me a visit, to thank me for a most wonderful cure performed by my Tarwater ; he assured me, a person in this town had the foul disorder, which so infected the whole mass, that part of the nose was lost, before he was called in ; and the infection was spread, so that in one of the calves of his leg he could thrust his fist, and the whole back was as bare as a cased rabbit ; as also the head and glands were so inflamed, he often spent 2 hours about this one subject ; but having tried in vain all methods in practice, I gave my patient your Tarwater ; the sudden effects of which astonished me, all the ulcers appearing more cool and kindly ; I then began to conceive some hope. After taking a gallon of the water, I found my patient full of complaints, very fretful, and uneasy, protesting never to touch one more drop of Tarwater, because the last night's operation was so violent and searching ; I strove to get the better of this rash dislike, by shewing the true reason, and future benefit of this strong operation, but to no purpose ; so Tarwater was omitted 48 hours, when all the ulcers became once more putrid, demonstrating an absolute necessity of returning to Tarwater ; after some struggle my patient took it again, and now I assure you, is perfectly recovered, the nose excepted ; and this whole cure, as strange as it is, was accomplished by your Tarwater, and no other medicine. Now, Sir, continues the surgeon, I intreat you to inform me how you make your water, as I imagine it will be of great service to the most wretched of mankind : I informed him of the sort of *Norway* Tar I made use of, and how I prepared the water.

103. A gentleman on *Arbour hill* was so afflicted with inward pains, and emaciated to such a degree, that he was obliged to part with his commission, when commanded lately abroad. All other medicines and advice failing, he drank Tarwater of his own making, which he assured me had almost poisoned him, without any manner of relief. He sent to me for some of my Tarwater : On taking which for some time, his pains immediately vanished, and never returned, and he is become an hail brisk strong man.

204. Mrs. *Dickson*, at Mrs. *Fera's* at *Island bridge*, had a long time a frequent colic, and inveterate scurvy, which infected her body, and face, but was cured by this medicine only.

205. Miss *Martha Dowers*, in *Plunket-street*, was long afflicted with an inveterate scurvy, over her whole body, and for years continued so, tho' all methods were tried ; at last she took Tarwater, which effectually cured her.

206. Mr. *William Foster*, brewer in *James's street, Dublin*, sorely afflicted with swellings in his legs, and a severe cough ; he took but 1 gallon of Tarwater, and the swellings and cough are gone.

207. Messieurs *Mossy* and *Boucher*, in the C. of *Limerick*, from long confinement, contracted such ill habits of body, that their physicians declared they could not live, if confined in the place where they were, so were brought into my neighbourhood, where hearing of my Tarwater, they sent for some, which they drank, and were restored surprizingly in a short time, after every other method prescribed by the best physicians had failed.

## 42 *Eating Ulcers of the King's Evil,*

208. A gentlewoman was attacked, in *Sept.* 1745, with a severe ague-fit, at 3 in the morning, which shook her 2 hours. I gave her a naggin of Tarwater, on which she slept for some time; at 9 the same morning preparing to rise, she could not stir her left leg, being greatly swelled and inflamed. She kept her bed for some time, and stiped her leg with spirits of wine, but took no medicine inwardly but Tarwater, by which means, she had no other ague-fit, and her leg became as sound as the other.

209. Miss *Hannah Hartnell*, at Mrs. *Green's* in *Ransford street, New.* 6, 1745, fell ill of the small-pox; her parents having a good opinion of Tarwater, were willing to make use of it; accordingly I ordered half a pint to be given her warm every sixth hour; the child took it, and it sat well on her stomach, till the third day, when she threw it up soon after it was down, with a load of phlegm; by which means an oppression and pain in her stomach ceased, of which she continually complained before. On that day, she had a violent lax, which continued about 20 hours, still she took her Tarwater as before, but as she threw up most of it, I ordered a third of warm water to be mixt with it, to make it weaker, which caused it to sit, and she was not sick, or made the least complaint, until *Nov.* 17, being the 13th day; when I found her in a most hopeless way; the discharge at her nose and eyes was stopt, which before was very large, for the pock being confluent, never filled, but discharged itself that way, and her hands appeared livid; the child was cold, with little or no pulse, an hoarseness, and cough. I examined how this

frightful alteration happened, and found, that, by accident, water was spilt in the child's bed, out of which she was taken, tho' in a cold frosty day, and continued so till all the wet things were dried. My hope was now small, but I warm'd a naggin of Tarwater, and obliged the poor child to sip it, little by little, till she got all down, and it staid with her. The mother went into the bed, took the child in her arms to infuse heat, and in some time the child grew warm and easy, fell into a fine sweat, and slept for about 2 hours, after which, the former discharge from both nose and eyes burst forth anew, which produced a speedy recovery. What is most astonishing in the whole process, for 21 days, she was not once sick, or made the least complaint, the 3d and 13th days excepted. She took no manner of medicine, but only Tarwater, not one drop of sack or sack-whey, her common drink was two milk whey, or boiled milk and water, of which she took plentifully, and always warm: she is now livelier and heartier than before she lay down, being only the 23d day, this 28th of *November* 1745.

210. Mr. *Wm Charleton*, in *Nov.* 1745, was attacked with a violent fever, of which he seem'd to get the better, but relapsed immediately, and seemed past hope; as an addition to his disorder, having an inflamed ulcer in his throat, that he could not swallow; upon taking Tarwater his ulcer vanished, his appetite returned, and his fever entirely left him.

211. *John Mac Donald* was miserably eat with the king's evil in many parts of his body, it consumed half his face, so that he was nauseous both to himself and others. Being in  
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the country, in hopes of relief, he set out for *Dublin*, and by accident met the bp. of *Cloyne*, who advised him to Tarwater, and gave him some money to provide it. The lad neglected this good advice, but got admission into one of the infirmaries, where being twice salivated, but nothing better, he was turned out as incurable; he then came into the work-house as a vagabond, where he was salivated also, but his evil still continued obstinate, without the least sign of relief; as he was crawling about, I took notice of him, and advised him to Tarwater; he complied, and in the space of a fortnight, found most sensible relief, so continued taking it about six weeks longer, which cured all the ulcers of his body; but where they were, the skin is drawn up in wrinkles, tho' without any weakness or pain. Thus far Mr. Hill.

212. *Extract of a letter from a gentleman, relating his own case, December 10, 1745.*

About a year ago I first meddled with Tarwater, only playing with it. I found it good for a slow digestion, and a strengthener of a weak stomach. I was troubled with the piles, and with a pain in the lower part of my back, in both which cases it befriended me. Being at ease, I thought no more of Tarwater, till *July* last, when the pain in the lower part of my back afflicted me so violently, as to cause me to apply to a physician, from whom I gathered, that what I had deemed to be of the gravel kind, was gouty. However, I determined now to use Tarwater in earnest, which I did pretty regularly, and, by the divine blessing, with advantage to my health and strength, freedom of spirits and

cheerfulness. I, also, almost left off flesh meat, malt-liquor, wine and cyder: indeed, I find little inclination to drink except at meals, nor want any cordial, whilst in the use of Tarwater. I was near 30 years old, when an ulcerous ailment came upon me in my seat; and 'tis now somewhat more than 30 years, that it hath been a running issue, more or less, some time in every moon pretty plentifully discharging a purulent matter; but this discharge is now stopped by the Tarwater. Such is its wonderful force in sweetening the blood and juices.

213. Mr. *James Hanning*, of *Cloyne*, was seized with a violent fever in *November* 1743, his feet and legs were at first extremely cold, his head much disturbed, and he lost all appetite; he took Tarwater in plenty, and in 10 days his fever, and all other bad symptoms went off, and in a fortnight he was perfectly recovered.

214. Mr. *Chamant Foster* of *Cloyne*, was in summer, 1744, seized with a fever, which made him incapable of business: he drank Tarwater, and in 10 days his fever turned to an ague, which, on once taking the bark, was perfectly cured; he used to have one or two fits of the gout every year, but had no return of it since he drank Tarwater.

215. *Robert Dillon* of *Clonbrock* in the C. of *Galway*, Esq; member of parliament, had been afflicted with the gout 15 years, which became more violent every year, and confined him for many months together, with great pain, and such weakness in his limbs, that he could hardly walk; and when the fit ceased, he was troubled in a morning with a loathing in his stomach, and a discharge of a great deal of phlegm,



phlegm, he had no relief from any medicine he took; in summer, 1744, he began Tarwater, which he has continued for a year and half without intermission, half a pint in the morning, and as much every night; the loathing in his stomach is gone, and tho' he has now and then the gout, it is but seldom, and lasts but a short time; with little or no pain, and he now enjoys good appetite and spirits, tho' his limbs are still weak, but he thinks himself happy in comparison of his former condition.

216. *Henry Lefrange* of the *King's county, Esq;* member of parliament, had been troubled with the gout for 10 years, and about 4 years ago was seized with the small pox, from which he recovered with great difficulty; for a year after he had no return of the gout, but for the last 3 years the gout returned upon him with more violence, so that he had a fit every autumn and spring; the fit in last spring lasted 3 months, and deprived him of rest, appetite, and spirits; he began to drink Tarwater in summer 1745, which he has continued ever since, with such good effect, that he has had no gout in the usual season, nor any symptom of it, and enjoys a good appetite, flow of spirits, has the full use and strength of his limbs as much as ever, and resolves to drink Tarwater constantly, to which he imputes all his recovery.

217. *Col. Charles Tottenham* of *Tottenham-green*, in the *C. of Wexford, Esq;* member of parliament, had been afflicted with a dead ague for 5 years, without cold fits, but the hot were very violent, with prodigious sweats, which wasted and weakened him greatly; he lost his appetite and spi-

rits, and tho' he took great quantities of the bark, found himself worse; he consulted the physicians in *Dublin*, and took their prescriptions without any relief. In summer, 1744, he had recourse to Tarwater, which he drank cold, half a pint in the morning, and as much at night for a month or six weeks, and found that it griped him very much, and gave him no relief; on which he discontinued it: but finding that his disorder grew worse, and hearing that it was advised in cases of agues, colics, and fevers, to drink Tarwater warm, and in smaller quantities at a time, he drank it milk-warm, found it agree with his stomach, and got immediate relief, and continuing to drink it plentifully, has entirely got the better of his dead ague, and recovered his appetite, spirits, and rest, and attributes all to Tarwater, which he resolves always to drink, as it is no way disagreeable to him.

218. *Mr. Wm. Willan*, tape-weaver, in *Thomas-street, Dublin*, for many years had been afflicted with the gout, which gave him much pain, and frequently confined him to his chamber; he drank Tarwater, and is now able to attend all his business abroad, without pain from the gout.

219. *Capt. Solomon Debrisay*, of *Dublin*, was troubled with a scorbutical disorder above 20 years, for which he took several medicines, in *England, France, and Ireland*; and tho' he sometimes had some abatement of his disorder, yet at last it grew very violent, breaking out into running sores, and scurff, attended with great pain, so that he could hardly ride or walk. In *September, 1744*, he got also an inflammation of the lungs, and violent cough, by catching cold, for which



which he was blooded and vomited ; and when he had got the better of the inflammation, he took Tarwater to remove his cough, at the rate of a pint a day, which in a little time carried off his cough ; and finding the water to agree with him, and that it made him easier in the scurvy, he continued the drinking of it for six months, by which means he was entirely cured of the scurvy, without the least sore or spot remaining.

220. Mr. *George Rumford*, aged 75, who lives at the *Black-pits, Dublin*, was in the year 1744, seized with a most violent cough, attended with a continual spitting of corrupt stuff and phlegm. He took every thing the doctors ordered, without the least benefit, on which they gave him up ; he drank Tarwater, a pint each day, till he had used 3 gallons ; in which time, he was quite recovered, and restored to a good appetite, and is now in a great flow of spirits.

221. *James Reily*, servant to Mr. *Phepoe* brewer in *Mill street*, was in the year 1745, afflicted with an asthma, shortness of breath, the scurvy in his face, and a great cough, at the same time his belly, thighs, and legs were swollen to a monstrous size, so that he could scarce walk or breathe, and he lost all appetite ; he took many things without benefit, and he drank Tarwater about a pint a day, until he had made use of a gallon, by which time his breath was restored, his cough was gone, and all the swellings in his body and limbs fell away, and he soon was able to go thro' his business as well as ever.

222. Mr. *Enoch Mason*, who lives with Mr. *Burquot*, clothier, near *Essex-bridge*, had been troubled with rheumatic pains in his joints for 15

years, which he could not remove by any of the medicines he took ; but in 1744, his disorder appeared in a new form ; he had great difficulty of breathing, so that he could not lye down in his bed for 6 weeks, his belly was drawn up, and he suffered great pains ; the physician called it a contraction of the bowels ; he could not sleep by reason of his pains and difficulty of breathing, and tho' he took many composing draughts, which made him doze, he got no refreshment : he went thro' the common course of physick, vomiting and other prescriptions, without relief ; his case was judged desperate, and he was advised to go into the country and drink milk, which might prolong his life for some time, but without any hopes that he could last long. He heard of Tarwater, and drank a pint a day ; which in a little time removed the contraction in his belly, restored him to a freedom of breathing, and brought him to a good appetite, so that he mended every day, and continuing to drink the water, obtained a perfect cure.

223. Mr. *John Wilkinson*, clerk in the surveyor general's office in the castle of *Dublin*, broke his leg by a slip in the street, which confined him 3 months ; by lying so long on his back in bed, he got the gravel, which gave him great uneasiness, and by catching cold, he lost his hearing. To ease him of his gravel, he took Tarwater, and when he had drank a gallon, to his surprize, found his deafness carried off, and continuing to drink it, which he found very diuretic, he voided a small craggy stone and a great deal of gravel, and is now entirely well.

224. *Matthew Haynes*, sword cutler, on the *Blind-quay*, was for 15 months

months so fore and streightened all over his body that he could not bear his apron or cloaths on without pain ; he had lost his appetite and rest, and was brought so low, that he was not able to work, or even to go up or down stairs without help ; and tho' he was oppressed with phlegm, he dared not cough or spit, on account of the great pain caused thereby in his breast and body. Being advised to drink Tarwater, he incautiously drank near a pint at once cold, which he instantly threw up, together with a great deal of phlegm. He thought himself a dead man, and was for sending for a clergyman to pray with him ; but in a few minutes after he found himself much easier in his stomach, and mended all the day. This reconciling him to Tarwater, he drank it milk-warm, twice a day, half a pint each time, and continuing it, all the sores in his breast and body went away, he breathed with ease, and recovered his rest and appetite, and works at his trade as formerly.

225. *A letter of Wm. Pleasant's of Knockbeg in the C. of Carlow, E/q;* February 4, 1745.

A boy who drove my plough, laboured under a scrophulous disorder, or king's evil ; he had many sores about his jaws and neck, for some years. His mother applied different kinds of herbs to them, which eased a little, but had no other effect. At my recommendation, some gentlemen of skill in *Dublin* gave him some medicines, but they proved ineffectual. He try'd Tarwater, and had not drank a gallon when the ulcers began to dry, and his face, which was very much swollen with his distemper, began to reassume its natural form. He left me

last spring, and soon after was quite cured.

*Wm. Pleasants.*

226. *Mr. Patrick Butler*, shoemaker in *Crane-lane, Dublin*, had been afflicted with the rheumatism several years, about 2 years ago he was laid up 3 months together, and for 8 days could not stir hand or foot ; when the violence of the fit abated in 1744, he made use of Tarwater, which in a little time gave him great relief ; he persisted in the use of it, and has got the full strength of his limbs, and if he gets any twitching in his limbs by cold or sharp weather, Tarwater immediately relieves him.

227. *Wm. Heany*, journeyman to said *Mr. Butler*, was in 1744, seized with such violent pains in his legs, that he could not walk, rest, or work. He drank Tarwater, and found in a little time all his pains go off, and was restored to the full use of his limbs.

228. *Mrs. Bonvillet*, in *Kings street*, 28 years ago had the misfortune to fall down stairs, and pitched upon her shoulder, but as the pain soon went off, she did not take any care about. A pimple came in that part, but finding no pain she neglected it, till the year 1744, it had formed a wen of an enormous size, which spread from her shoulders to one of her ears, and under her arm pit, as large as the mould of a hat, so that she was obliged to enlarge her cloaths to cover it ; but as she had no pain, she neglected all thoughts of preventing its progress, which might have been easily effected in the beginning ; but in 1744, she found herself troubled with lowness of spirits, want of appetite and rest, which greatly reduced her ; for removing these she drank Tarwater, for a considerable time. The first effect was,

she

she recovered her appetite, got rest and spirits; as she found it did her so much service, she still drank it for several months, and observed the great wen on her shoulders began to grow soft, and decrease. This encouraged her to continue drinking the water, and in a few months after the wen was reduced to a fourth of its first size, daily grew softer, and seemed to have some floating roots in it: finding herself easy, and in so good a way, she laid aside Tarwater, and the wen began to grow hard and swell again; upon which, she resumed her Tarwater, drinks near a quart a day, and finds that the hardness and swelling greatly abate; and hopes by persisting to get quite rid of her wen. Her hopes are the greater, from the benefit a *French* gentleman received in a parallel case: a great lump by degrees grew on the crown of his head, which became at last as large as an egg, that he could hardly keep his hat on, and tho' not attended with pain, was very troublesome. He took Tarwater for some other disorder, from which he was relieved, and found at the same time, that this lump or wen softened, and by degrees vanished.

229. Mr. *John Wilme*, silversmith, in *Coles-alley*, got a hurt in his shin-bone, which caused a running and swelling, and being laid open by a surgeon, was healed; but after that, a humour flowed, and swelled the part, and gave him great uneasiness. At the same time, an excrescence came on the crown of his head, which grew to the size of a small egg, at least an inch high, and was so sore, that he could hardly bear a hat on his head. He took Tarwater for the first ailment, 3 months, and tho' he drank scarce

half a pint a day, he soon found a great abatement of the swelling and uneasiness in his leg, and to his great surprize the excrescence on his head grew easy and melted away.

230. The wife of Mr. *Morgan*, patten-maker, at *Nicholas-gate*, had been troubled with a paralytic disorder for some time; her fingers were so drawn up, that she could hardly open them, and she could scarce walk, her feet were so weak, cold and stiff; she was apprehensive that she should quite lose the use of them, and have a palsy all over her body, as nothing that she took gave her any relief; she drank Tarwater, and in 6 weeks recovered the use of her fingers and hands, got strength, warmth, and suppleness in her limbs, and by continuing it, has recovered the full use of them, and now walks with ease.

231. Mr. *Herwetson*, above 70, of *Schoolhouse-lane*, had been many years troubled with the gout, which every winter laid him up for several months; in summer 1744, he drank Tarwater for several months running; the effect was, he had no fit of the gout in the winter 1744, and got a good stomach and spirits, and walked tolerably well without pain; in summer 1745, he drank some Tarwater, but laying it quite aside for 6 months together, in winter 1745, on catching cold, he had a return of the gout, tho' with little pain; it is probable, that, had he continued taking Tarwater in sufficient quantity, and avoided catching cold, he would either have had no fit at all, or a slight one.— *In such cases, Tarwater should be drank warm before the fit, in the fit, and after the fit, at least a pint a day; a quart would be much better.*



232. Mr. *Francis Wilson*, sadler in *Chapel street*, had been troubled with a stuffing, wind and oppression in his stomach five years, attended at night with a difficulty of breathing, and a great cough in the mornings, which made him strain and heave, and deprived him of his stomach and digestion; in 1743, he was seized with the gout, and again in 1744, which was followed by the gravel. In Oct. 1744, he began to drink Tarwater about half a pint a day, which he continued till *Christmas* following, with such good effect, that in 3 weeks time he found great benefit, and soon after was free from the oppression in his stomach, breathed freely, recovered his appetite, lost his cough, and discharged a great deal of gravel without pain, and has had no return of the gout ever since.

234. Mr. *Pasqualino*, the musician, now in *Dublin*, on *Thursday, Jan. 23, 1745*, having played a part in Mr. *Handel's* grand Oratorio of *Deborah*, and being in a great heat and sweats was after the performance exposed to a cold air near half an hour, by which he was immediately struck with a cold shivering, and could not sleep one wink that night. In the morning he had a violent head ach, cholic pains, and great heat all over his body, which obliged him to keep his bed. By 4 o'clock in the afternoon, his fever grew so high, that he became a little delirious; his wife had a mind to send for a physician, but as he had been cured of a fever before by drinking Tarwater, he ordered that it should be got for him in plenty, and nothing else; he began to drink it about 5 o'clock milk-warm, near half a pint every quarter of an hour, and con-

tinued it at that rate till 8 o'clock next morning, bating some intermissions, when he got a little sleep; tho' he had given directions to his servant, to awake him if he should happen to sleep, and make him drink the water; he computed, that in the said time, he drank 8 quarts: the effect was, that during the whole night, he was in high spirits, had a great perspiration, and by 8 o'clock in the morning, his heat and fever had quite left him, and he was perfectly easy, and very hungry. He kept his bed that day by way of precaution against catching cold, free from all symptoms of a fever, and on *Sunday* went abroad, being perfectly recovered,

234. A gentlewoman near *Sycamore-Alley, Dublin*, had been troubled with fits, which came upon her all at once without any previous symptom, and deprived her of her senses for 3, 4, or five minutes at a time; they became more frequent, and she was apprehensive that she would be carried off in one of them. She took several things to prevent their return, without any effect. She had no opinion of Tarwater, but to satisfy her friends, drank near a pint a day for 5 days, in *July 1745*, and had no return of her fits, and got a good appetite and spirit; but found a great itching all over her body, and soon after, black spots on her arms, shoulders, and body. She then thought she was poisoned by Tarwater, and exclaimed against it; but a friend finding that she was in good spirits, told her, that the water having driven that humour out on the surface of her body, had done her all the service imaginable, and encouraged her to persist in drinking it; she continued to do so for 2 or 3 months in small quantities,



quantities, and the black spots first became yellow, and by degrees disappeared ; she has had no fits since drinking Tarwater, but by getting a greater appetite, is grown much fatter.

235. A captain of a man of war had been troubled with the scurvy several years, had taken many medicines, went to *Bath*, and drank the waters, but to no purpose ; his disorder rather increased, and broke out in sores and scurf over his arms and other parts of his body, especially his head, which he could not suffer to be shaved; by taking Tarwater 6 weeks, all the sores, spots and scurf went off, and he became as hale and clean as ever, with a great increase of appetite.

236. Two sisters, at the same time, drank Tarwater, one for a strangury, the other for a diabetes, and both were cured, in a little time, of those opposite disorders.

237. A gentlewoman had a deafness; she had drank Tarwater in small quantities several weeks with no effect, but doubling the quantity, was soon after cured.

238. One gentleman was cured of an habitual costiveness by Tarwater, and another was made costive by it.

239. Two gentlewomen, near *Youghall*, were likewise affected in different ways, one was made costive, and the other loose by Tarwater.

240. An old beggar-woman, with a most shocking cancerated breast, was in a few days much better by drinking and washing the sores with Tarwater.

241. A woman that was twice married, and yet never was with child, took Tarwater for a disorder she laboured under, and constantly drank it for a considerable time, which re-

moved her ailment. She soon after became pregnant, and imputes it to Tarwater ; her husband also drank it. There are many other instances of persons who unexpectedly became with child, as they believed, from the use of Tarwater.

242. A young lady was cured by Tarwater of a long and violent headache.

243. A poor woman, whose legs were monstrously swollen, and ulcerated, applied Tar as a salve or poultice, and drank Tarwater at the same time, and was soon perfectly cured.

244. A gentleman's servant had the misfortune of a coach-wheel running over his foot, which was thereby terribly bruised and swollen. A poultice of tar was applied, which soon put an end to both swelling and pain.

245. A maid servant, who had a tetter in her arm, consulted a country practitioner, who applied the blue stone, upon which her arm swelled up to her shoulder, and was pained to such a degree, that her master apprehended she might lose it. He made her wash and foment it with hot strong Tarwater, and apply a plaister or poultice of warm tar, which speedily cured her.

246. A gentleman in an eminent station, troubled with a fixed pain in his side for 2 years, took several medicines without benefit. He drank Tarwater for a considerable time, and is at perfect ease.

247. A person ill of the ague, was cured by drinking Tarwater warm in the cold fit.

248. Several children have died of sore throats, but those who drank a gallon of warm Tarwater a day, immediately recovered.

249. Great has been the efficacy of Tarwater in the cure of venereal disorders, gleets, &c. but in such cases names are not to be mentioned. One quart a day at 6 or 8 glasses, without any other medicine, avoiding the catching cold, and improper food, has been found to work a perfect cure.

250. A gentlewoman, in the C. of *Cork*, had hurt her leg, which being neglected, a gangrene was apprehended; she had a physician and surgeon from *Cork*, who after some months physicking, catting and tenting, abandoned her, declaring she must never hope to recover her leg, which was wasted and useless, and left her with a running ulcer kept open with tents. She left off every thing but Tarwater, whereof she took 3 pints daily in 9 glasses, and in 3 weeks was quite cured, to the surprize of all the neighbourhood.

251. A maid servant was seized with a vehement fever and stitch, on the 19th of *April* 1714, in the morning; her face as red as crimson, her pulse exceeding high, scarce able to utter a word for the great oppression about her heart, and her blood and flesh hot in an extreme degree. Her case was desperate from the manner of her falling ill; which was, that the night before, after hard work, being in a sweat, she drank a great quantity of cold small liquor, and sat in the open cold air. She drank 5 quarts of Tarwater in 10 hours, the next morning her fever left her, and she was so well recover'd, that she got up, and was going to work, but was ordered to keep in bed a day longer, to prevent a relapse.

252. *Wednesday Aug. 1, 1744*, a boy, about 9 years old, was seized

with an inflammation of the lungs; short coughs, pain in the throat and breast, difficulty of breathing, glazed eyes, scarlet cheeks, and burning heat. He was put to bed, and drank Tarwater 5 pints the first day, and about 2 quarts the second, at a glass every half hour. The first day, it produced an extraordinary discharge of urine; the second, it threw him into gentle sweats, eased his symptoms, and kept him in high spirits, and good appetite; on *Friday* he was past all danger. On drinking water coloured with milk (which he desired) he constantly relapsed, and was as immediately eased upon taking a glass of pure Tarwater. The child sensible of this, cried out, "Mamma, What is this Tarwater made of, that it is such a sudden cure?"——It was of this disorder that the late bishops of *Ossory* and *Elphin* died: And as no distemper is more threatening than an inflammation of the lungs, bleedings are prescribed for it by physicians, even to 70 or 80 ounces; but without bleeding or blistering, or any other medicine, Tarwater alone effects the cure.

253. A boy was seized with a violent fever, having wetted his shoes and stockings (a new thing to him) and suffered them to dry on his feet. He had first a shivering cold fit, then blood-shot eyes, wild look, burning heat all over his body; he drank a gallon of Tarwater, which made him vomit, after that he slept and sweated most copiously for 16 hours, and when he awoke, was very hungry, but in very high spirits, the fever was almost gone the third day; but he kept in bed 2 days longer.

254. A boy seized with a violent fever was put to bed, and drank near  
2 quarts

2 quarts of Tarwater the first hour, and continued drinking very copiously. The next day he was in appearance recovered, but was kept in bed one day longer; after the third day, he was as well as ever.

255. Another lad was seized with a racking pain all over his body, attended with a hot fever; about noon, he was put to bed, and drank in 9 hours 25 half pints of Tarwater, with which he did not sweat, but vented it all by urine, and his pain and fever left him at 9 at night; next day he was hearty.

256 A young woman was tormented with a painful swelling in her side, which threw her into a fever. She drank Tarwater copiously, and soon found herself easy and well, but she applied at the same time a plaister of tar and honey to the part, which ripened, broke, and then healed it.

257. A gentleman had the gout 5 days; at first he drank sack whey, and his pain and fever were violent, so as to pass a whole night awake and restless. He drank large doses of Tarwater, which made him sleep sound every night after, and kept up his appetite and spirits, and after a few days he was well.

258. Capt. *Foulks*, Mr. *Philips* in *Crane lane*, and several others, informed me, that having had frequent fits of the gout, they drank Tarwater; and tho' they took it in small quantities, found great benefit, their fits either not returning, or with less pain and shorter.

259. A gentleman's daughter being seized with the small-pox, he gave her no other medicine than Tarwater, which she drank all the time; she had it very favourably, with little or no sickness.

260. A boy was very ill of a worm-fever, when the small-pox seized him, which made his case extremely bad. He was treated as only ill of worms, the small-pox not being then apprehended. He was reduced to the lowest state, without sense or motion, and many cordials were applied to bring him to himself; but all to no purpose, till a few spoonfuls of Tarwater, poured down his throat without his knowledge, brought him to life; and by continuing the Tarwater, he recovered daily, and was soon perfectly well.

261. In *March* 1744, a boy complained heavily of a stitch about 8 o'clock in the morning; he was put to bed, and in about an hour drank 8 glasses of Tarwater off, 3 to a pint; then fell into a sound sleep, and at 3 o'clock in the afternoon was up, dressed and well.

262. In *April* 1745, a labourer being taken ill of a violent pleurisy, with spitting of blood, went into his bed, and drank copiously of Tarwater, which quite recovered him.

263. A gentlewoman in *April* 1745, being cut in a cold, dry, windy day; was taken with a palsy, not being able to walk or stand upright. She went to bed, drank Tarwater, a glass every quarter of an hour, and next day in smaller quantity, and the day following was quite recovered.

264. A man servant had a pleuritic stitch, a fever, and spit blood. He drank Tarwater plentifully in bed, which threw him into a great sweat, being impatient under this sweat, to cool himself, he lay almost naked, which had like to have killed him. But Tarwater, copiously taken, recovered him intirely.



265. A Lawyer in *Dublin*, and 2 young ladies, have been cured of fevers by the copious drinking of Tarwater only.

266. Several persons, of both sexes, have been cured of the piles, some by the bare drinking of Tarwater, others by sitting at the same time on a close-stool filled with hot Tarwater, which, with anointing the parts with the oyl skimmed off from the water, soon healed the sores, and removed the disorder.

267. In *December 1744*, a *Prolapsus Uteri*, &c. given over as incurable by the surgeons, was perfectly cured by Tarwater.

268. Two persons given over, one ill of a palsy at *Bath*, and the other of a cancer at *York*, were both cured in a short time by Tarwater.

269. A gentleman's son, in the C. of *Limerick*, was cured of a spitting of blood by Tarwater.

270. An infant had a cough from its birth; those who saw it, thought it could not live: Tarwater was given it, the nurse drank some also; the cough went off, and the child is now lively.

271. A lady, who has long had a cancer in her breast, and suffered greatly; by taking Tarwater, the only thing she has found good from, is freed from pain.

272. A gentleman, in the C. of *Limerick*, was cured by Tarwater of an imposthume in his head.

273. A lady was cured of a megrim and inveterate head-ach by Tarwater, and several other persons who used to be troubled with a dizziness in their heads.

274. A ship being bound from *Porto-bello* to *Jamaica*, and being detained

long in the passage, the crew, wanting water, were reduced to great distress, which threw many of them into the bilious or yellow fever. To their great comfort, a heavy rain fell, they caught all they could, and the deck of the ship, and cordage having been new tarred to preserve them against the heat of the climate, all the water they got was impregnated with the tar; they drank plentifully of it, and all those who were ill of the bilious fever recovered, to their great surprize, as it is reckoned a most fatal distemper.

275. A boy had a fore in his leg, which was also inflamed and hard; he washed it with Tarwater, and apply'd the oil of Tar, which soon recovered him.

276. A man of *Youghall*, deaf many years, by drinking Tarwater much improved in his hearing, and has hopes of relief by a longer use of it.

277. A gentleman, who had a pain in his right side for 15 years, consulted many physicians, and took a world of drugs to no purpose; but on taking Tarwater (tho' a bad sort) for 4 weeks, found himself greatly relieved.

278. A woman was given over, upon the retention of the after-birth by the unskilful management of the midwife; some advised Tarwater, it recovered her contrary to all expectation.

279. *Margaret Masterfon*, a young woman at *Dr. Wynne's*, at *Harold's cross*, near *Dublin*, informed me, that one day in the spring about 5 years ago, she walked very fast from *Harold's cross* to *Crumlin church*, which is about 2 miles, and being in a great heat and sweat, she sat on the ground in the church-yard for above half an hour, which gave her a great cold, with



with pains in her right side, and lower belly, so exquisite, that sometimes, for 20 days together, she could not get the least sleep; she lost her flesh and appetite, and was reduced to a skeleton. She could not stand upright, and walked double, nor could she bear any carriage, every motion put her to the rack, and she was forced to confine herself for the most part to her bed, and even there, was not able to stir a limb, when her pains came upon her. Nothing that she took did her any service: she was in *Mercers* hospital 3 months, without benefit from the physicians and surgeons there, who at first thought she was troubled with a stone, but afterwards agreed that she had an ulcer in the bladder. After she left the hospital, she was salivated, and took many things by the advice of physicians; but nothing gave her ease, and she was judged incurable. She continued in this miserable condition a long time, she had also a sort of diabetes, or involuntary, and almost constant discharge of water. In summer 1744, she drank Tarwater, and in a few days received great benefit, and in a few weeks all her pains and ailments went off; she recovered her appetite, flesh, rest, and limbs, and walked as well as ever, to the great surprize of the surgeons.

• 280. A tradesman in the earl of *Meath's* liberty, was in the year 1744, greatly afflicted with a powerful discharge of bloody urine, which sometimes appeared as clear blood as any that comes from a vein. He could not walk a quarter of a mile, but in great pain, and he wasted away. He continued in this condition several months together, and took many things for a cure, without effect; at last he drank Tarwater, and soon

found benefit, which encouraged him to continue it, and he was soon perfectly recovered of his ailment.

281. A gentlewoman, who lives near *Dublin*, was for many years afflicted with a cancer in her breast, which had been cut by surgeon *Dobbs*; but it grew again, and was excessively painful, so that she resolved to undergo another cutting, and came to town for that purpose; but the surgeon finding that she had got a violent cough, would not venture to cut her breast till her cough was removed, and advised her to go to the country to be cured of her cough. She was there persuaded to drink Tarwater on that account, which she did with such effect, that she soon got rid of her cough; and finding that Tarwater agreed with her stomach, and made her breast easier, she continued the drinking of it for a considerable time, by which means her breast grew easy and soft, and she mended daily to her great comfort and surprize.

282. *A copy of a letter from the rev. Mr. Thomas Dawson, of Tallow, in the C. of Waterford, February 25, 1745.*

I take leave to send you the following cases, wherein, among several others of my neighbourhood, Tarwater has proved successful.

283. The wife of *John Guinane*, of *Tallow*, in the C. of *Waterford*, merchant, was violently seized with hysseric fits in the year 1744, attended with laughing, crying, and frequent swoonings, which continued for several months, tho' physicians by various medicines endeavoured to cure her of them. She bathed in the salt-water, pursuant to their advice, for a considerable time; but received very little benefit. At last she drank Tarwater,

and after 3 months perfectly recovered her health.

284. *Tho. Lowris*, of *Tallow*, in the C. of *Waterford*, was in a deep consumption, and so greatly emaciated, and yellow, that all who saw him, seemed to despair of his life. About 2 years ago, he began to drink Tarwater, and having in a few months received great benefit thereby, he continued ever since to drink the same regularly, and has perfectly recovered his health and complexion.

285. A gentleman, near *Caple-street*, for several years used to be troubled with fits, which gave him great uneasiness in his stomach, and were attended with a violent pain, which ran along the bottom of his belly, and fixed itself in his left hip, with a great inclination to puking. He thought it was a windy colic, and accordingly took many things, but without any benefit. He found that he grew worse, and that his fits returned upon him more frequently, and with more violence. He used also to have fits of the gout in his feet. Having read the treatise on Tarwater in *April 1744*, he resolved to drink it, and he had not taken it above 3 weeks, before he had a sensible benefit, and, continuing it, in a little time after, to his great surprize, discharged 2 stones near as big as peas, and then, and not till then, he discovered that his disorder was the stone and gravel; upon which the pain in the bottom of his belly went off, he got ease in his stomach, and recovered his appetite and rest. He has since voided gravel at several times, and of late, 3 smaller stones, which gave him pain in their passage. These fits of the gravel and stone return now and then upon him, and are

likely to do so, till they are all carried off; for which purpose, he finds Tarwater to be very useful. He assured me, that, since he began to drink Tarwater, which he constantly doth, he has not been confined one day with the gout.

286. A gentleman who had gone thro' a course of *Stephens's* medicines, took Tarwater, which he found more successful in the gravel.

287. Some gentlemen, who, on catching cold, used to have chopp'd lips, which they could not heal by any salve, were eased by bathing their lips with Tarwater, and they who had sore and running nostrils received the same benefit, by bathing them with the water. These slight instances are mentioned, only to shew the healing quality of Tarwater; and it is also found by experience that a plaister of tar is a safe and effectual cure for sores and swellings in the *backs of horses*. Several gentlemen informed me, that they gave 2 or 3 quarts of Tarwater a day to some of their horses which had great colds and disorders; the effect was, that they soon recovered. *Perhaps it may be advisable in all distempers of brute creatures, where the blood is corrupted, as in glanders in horses, and in infections of the horned cattle and sheep, which are thought to be incurable, to give them Tarwater warm in plenty, as it is found by experience in so many instances to correct and sweeten the blood and juices of the body, remove obstructions, and invigorate the spirits.*

288. The small-pox having proved very mortal last season, some were advised to give their children Tarwater warm, and the effect was, that they who drank it before they were seized with the small-pox, generally had it favourably

favourably ; they who took it during the sickness also, had no appearance of danger, the pock generally distinct, little or no sickness, nor marks left by it.—In and about *Clonmell*, the small-pox was so very fatal, that above 300 died of it, mostly of the confluent kind. Some were at last prevailed upon to give their children Tarwater warm, and in plenty, as Mr. *Gordon*, an eminent brewer there, did to 4 or 5 of his children, who all came off very well. This encouraged Mrs. *Powell* to give it to 3 of her children, who had it so favourably, that they were hardly sick. Whereas others, who were treated in the common way, were for the most part carried off by the malignity of the distemper ; tho' none who took Tarwater miscarried.

289. The rev. Mr. *Skelton*, minister of *Newry*, made his son about 13 drink Tarwater, before he had the small-pox, and when he was seized with it, gave him a wine-glass of it every 2 hours, during the disorder ; the child was hardly sick, the pock filled very well, and left no marks.

290. Several instances have been communicated by persons of credit, of wonderful and unexpected cures performed by Tarwater in disorders peculiar to the female sex at the times of their delivery ; also in provoking the menses when wanted, and in restraining them when immoderate.

291. Several gentlewomen in this town, having been troubled with rheumatic pains, oppression and load in their stomachs, want of appetite and rest, streightness in their chests, cough, and scorbutical disorders, were cured or greatly relieved by Tarwater, tho' drank in small quantities. Several gentlemen were affected the same

way, and received the like benefit.

292. As every city and large town in the kingdom can furnish many instances of great and unexpected cures performed by Tarwater alone, every one may be satisfied of the truth, who will give himself the trouble of enquiring. It has often grieved me, to hear of persons dying of acute disorders, which were suddenly and effectually cured by Tarwater, as appears from several cases in this narrative ; See *sect.* 80, 101, 111, 121, 133, 161, &c. 234, 251-2-3-4-5-6, 260 1 2 : which is published that every one may be fully apprized of the power of this water, and make trial of it in like disorders.

293. The gentlemen of the faculty who are men of superior skill and abilities, can and will, without doubt, apply and improve these hints and experiments. But tho' I am no physician, I may relate matters of fact concerning the effects of Tarwater, as they were communicated to me by gentlemen, or from patients themselves. I have mentioned some cases, where the names of persons and places are omitted ; but these I had from gentlemen of integrity and credit, whose letters are now in my custody ; if any should be desirous to know the names, or places of abode, that are omitted, I shall, for their private satisfaction, gratify them.

#### REMARKS.

294. Having closed my register of cases, I shall beg leave to make some REMARKS. I. It must be matter of surprize, to find, that in the space of one year and an half, such a number and variety of distempers have been cured, or greatly relieved by this one medicine. Thousands have received



ceived benefit, and daily do receive benefit in *England, Ireland, Holland, France, Portugal, and Germany*, by the use of Tarwater. The treatise on it, called *Siris*, has been translated into the *French, Low-Dutch, German and Portuguese* languages, and extracts thereof have been published in the *Magazines*. (See *Gent. Mag. April 1744.*) By so general a publication, the use of Tarwater, as a medicine, came to be universally known, and being strongly recommended by the author, from his own experiences, for the cure of several distempers, many were induced to make trial of it, and found immediate relief: this encouraged others to make use of it also for different disorders, and they received the same benefit.

295. The efficacy of Tarwater, in curing most kinds of fevers and pleurifies, is confirmed by so many trials, that they who are acquainted with this practice, think themselves in little danger from fevers; the larger the quantity of Tarwater taken in fevers, the sooner the recovery. If but 2 or 3 quarts a day, the fever may last 4 or 5 days; but if 4, 5, or 6 quarts, or more, be drank warm in 24 hours, the fever is quite carried off in a day or two. There is no instance of *danger or harm* done by any quantity taken; on the contrary, patients in fevers are in higher animal spirits, the more they drink, the water passing thro' their bodies by urine or perspiration, as fast as it is taken in, and thereby carrying off the noxious humours, and venom of the distemper the sooner. The patients at the same time get sound sleep, and a better appetite than is usual in fevers. My correspondents farther assure me, that they never knew an in-

stance where warm Tarwater was given betimes in a fever, and in due quantity, that it failed of success. — It is judged, that the greater part of grown people die of some kind of fever: therefore, nothing would save more lives, than this water duly prepared and taken.

296. II. The next remark I shall make is, on the variety of distempers cured by Tarwater, and even such as are opposite in their natures. This has been judged to be impossible by some who have decried the use of Tarwater: tho' fact and experience, the surest guides for knowing the force of any medicine, are entirely against them, not only in the case of Tarwater, but of several other medicines, which frequently produce contrary effects in different constitutions, and sometimes in the same. Some who first wrote and spoke against Tarwater, at the same time frankly owned, that they had never made any trial of it. How then could they form any judgment of its good or bad qualities, or expect that others should be swayed by their opinions, when no way supported by experiment. Some who were offended to find Tarwater recommended for so many different distempers, for that very reason were for exploding it, as of no use in any case whatsoever; without considering that whatever corrects and sweetens the blood, mends the stomach, and removes obstructions, as Tarwater manifestly doth, must be of use in all distempers, and thereby assist nature to make a perfect cure.

297. III. The *third* remark I shall make, is on the *safety* of this medicine. Some physicians advise and prescribe it: Others say, that it is  
good



## Tarwater *excellent in nervous Disorders,* 57

good in many cases, and that they do not find it do harm in any. Some suggest, that it is dangerous in inflammatory cases, by an over-heating quality : but the contrary is manifest, from its curing fevers, pleurifies, small-pox, and other inflammatory disorders, in a short space of time ; and it is so far from increasing inflammations, that it wonderfully alluages them. Some patients, on drinking Tarwater, were immediately seized with a *vomiting*, which much alarmed them ; but they soon found that Tarwater, by thus discharging a great deal of foul stuff out of their stomachs, gave them immediate relief, and the vomiting soon after stopped. Others had a *purging* for a day or two, but it soon ceased, when it had carried off the peccant humours, and they received great benefit by the operation. Some patients, who were troubled with violent scorbutical disorders, eruptions, itch, blotches, running sores, found, on the drinking Tarwater a few days, that their sores, itchings, and eruptions grew more troublesome, and increased on the surface of their bodies, in greater quantity and violence, and then thought Tarwater did them harm ; some were so imprudent as to stop drinking the water, when it was doing them all the good imaginable, by driving from the blood all the noxious humours to the surface of the body ; while others, who persisted in drinking, soon found the scurvy, eruptions, and other blotches on their bodies, die away and heal, to their great relief. Some, on whom Tarwater works by perspiration, found, that it made them costive, and heated them ; upon this, they laid it aside ; others, who in the like case persisted in drinking it, soon found that af-

ter the Tarwater had done its work by perspiration, they returned to their natural state, and got the relief they expected. Nature does not work two different ways at the same time ; if it works by stool, perspiration ceases for the time ; if by perspiration, then the other stops. If both those channels are stopped, there is no way left for nature to discharge the vitiated humors, but by urine : and this is the way that Tarwater generally operates. These are for the most part the cases, wherein Tarwater has been imagined to do harm, tho' it was doing the greatest service to the patients. It is true, that very bad Tar and Tarwater have often been made use of, and as true, that several persons at the time they drank Tarwater, indulged themselves in the use of strong liquors and spirits ; and therefore, it is no wonder, if they did not receive the benefit that otherwise they might have got. On the whole, I do not find any instance, where Tarwater *ever did any real harm* ; which cannot be said of *any other medicine*.

298. IV. Chronical disorders, wherein the whole mass of blood and juices of the body have been long vitiated, require a length of time and patience to effect a cure ; and if they be very grievous, the quantity of Tarwater to be taken in such cases should be increased from a pint to a quart a day, beginning with a *noggen* or a quarter of a pint, to find how it agrees with the stomach ; and so continuing to drink it often in small quantities ; it being found by experience, that the more the patients drink in such cases, the sooner they recover.

299. Scurvies make a great part of the ailments of people, in this part of

the world; and yet we find by the many instances produced in this narrative that the worst kinds of them, attended with running sores, blotches, scurff, &c. were perfectly cured by Tarwater, which heals up all the sores, and, in some measure, embalms scorbutic bodies alive.

300. Ulcers in the bladder, lungs, urinary passages, venereal taints, ulcers on the outward parts, and even the king's evil, and scrophulous disorders, commonly reckoned incurable, have yielded to the power of this water. (See § 136-7, 177, 178, 211, 225.) inasmuch, that we have reason to believe, that any king's evil may be cured by Tarwater; if regularly and plentifully taken, and the sores anointed with the oil skimmed from the Tarwater.

301. It has cured also scald heads, inveterate itch, and even cancers.

302. Nervous cases are obstinate, yet we find that hysteric fits, and palsies have been cured by Tarwater alone. Mr. *Hanning's* daughter mentioned *sect.* 160, p. 30. who could neither speak nor move a limb in *Novemb.* last, is now in *March* following perfectly well. A Woman, who was troubled with fits for above a twelve-month, which often returned, and caused her to lie speechless and senseless a long time together, took Tarwater, a quart a day, and has had but one fit in 3 weeks past, and that occasioned by a fright: others, long troubled with fits, have had no return of them after drinking freely of Tarwater.

303. Many persons have been cured of disorders in the bowels, colics, megrims, inveterate head-achs, agues, rheumatism, excessive thirst, and fix-

ed pains in some parts of the body. Others, tortured with excessive pains, on taking Tarwater, discovered their ailment to be the stone and gravel, and were relieved.

304. Many who laboured under a lowness of spirits, disorder in their stomachs, want of appetite and sleep:

305. Others long afflicted with asthma, shortness of breath, and difficulty of breathing, violent coughs, wheezing, stuffings and decays, sore throats and squinancy, have been either entirely cured, or greatly relieved by Tarwater.

306. As to the gout, some greatly afflicted with it, by the constant use of Tarwater, have had no return of their fits. Others, on drinking the water, found the same benefit; but by laying it aside too soon, or on catching cold their fits returned, yet not so violent nor lasting. The surest way of dealing with the gout, is not only to drink the water before and after, but during the whole time of the fit, a quart a day, warm, which gives such a discharge by perspiration or urine, as relieves nature, and removes the pains. But if gentlemen will use strong liquors, and high feeding, the same cause will still produce the same effects.

307. As to the *small-pox*, with which 9 parts in 10 of all people are seized, the great number of negroes cured on the coast of *Guinea*, *sect.* 42, 43, and others mentioned *sect.* 260, 288, evidently shew, that Tarwater is a safe and efficacious medicine in this fatal distemper.

308. But the greatest and most useful discovery of this, or perhaps any other age, is that of Tarwater's curing, so suddenly and effectually, all sorts of fevers, pleurisies, and inflammatory

matory distempers, whereby two thirds of mankind are carried off.

309. But to give Tarwater fair play, due caution should be had, that the water be good in its kind, that it be given warm to the patient, in bed, at the beginning of the fever, half a pint or more every half hour, according to the strength of the patient, 6 or 8 quarts in 24 hours; and no other medicine be taken with it; that care be taken against catching cold; that when the fever abates, no nourishment be given but what is very light and cooling; and that when the fever is gone, the patient keep his bed a day or two longer, free from noise and people's talking, to prevent a relapse.—Patients in fevers cannot drink too much Tarwater, there is no danger from excess, the more they drink the sooner they are cured; it hath been often observed, that the heat and thirst they have on such occasions so reconciles the water to them, that they can drink a great quantity without disgust; they have generally a great flow of spirits during the whole time they drink, get intervals of sleep, and when the fever abates, they have commonly keen appetites, which ought not to be indulged too soon or too much. It is amazing to see with what speed and success Tarwater, taken copiously, as above-mentioned, cures the most violent pleurifies, without blisters or medicines, and without bleeding, which in common practice is excessive. It is said, Mr. *Hamilton*, collector at *Cork*, had 150 ounces taken from him in a pleuritic distemper, of which he died. It is proper to repeat and inculcate the advantage of being cured by a cordial, rather than by evacuations, which at best leave a

patient weak and languishing for years. Nothing is so dangerous as neglecting the beginnings of fevers. Some people are apt to go abroad with fevers upon them, which inflames, and renders them very dangerous. The best course is to go to bed, and drink Tarwater, but no fermented or distilled liquors.

310. Some cannot comprehend it, but nothing hinders why Tarwater, which drank daily in small quantities proves a gradual cure for chronical ills, may not also, if drank in very large quantities, prove a speedy cure for acute cases, such as all kinds of fevers.

311. Seafaring men, whose lives ought to be preserved with the utmost care, are subject to many distempers, besides those common to other men, which they contract by the change and inclemency of the weather in long voyages, by the heat or cold of the climate, by great fatigues, salt provisions, close suffocating air in the ships, &c. which produce fevers, calentures, scurvies of several kinds, ulcers, running sores, looseness of their teeth, and many other disorders, for which having little or no provision of medicines, great numbers of them perish miserably. Now as experience shews that Tarwater cures those disorders, every ship should have several barrels of good Tar, and a vessel of Tarwater always prepared, also spruce-beer, which is a great antiscorbutic.

312. A barrel of Tarwater in every hospital, infirmary, and work house, should also stand ready, by which the lives of numbers may be saved, and great sums in medicines. Tarwater is introduced into the hospitals at *Lisbon*, with great advantage. And I am inclined to believe, that many of those



those who are lodged, in *Guy's* and other hospitals, as incurables, may be cured or greatly relieved by Tarwater, and so make room for others to be admitted.

313. Gentlemen who live in the country and market-towns, ought, in compassion for their poor tenants and neighbours, provide Tarwater, and distribute the same liberally.

314. Tarwater is recommended to sedentary persons, as by its diuretic quality it greatly prevents head ach, bloating, dropfy, stone and gravel.

315. V. In all odd, new and desperate cases, where people are at a loss what to do, it is recommended to try Tarwater, which has been found to recover persons from the brink of death.

316. Tarwater is in great vogue at *Paris*. An *Irish* physician there prescribes it to his patients with great success, and has got into good business thereby. — Dr. *De Linden*, a German physician, now in *London*, writes thus, *I myself have drank about 25 gallons of Tarwater, every 24 hours 3 pints, and I never found any effect that we may call a physical heat in the blood, notwithstanding I am of a very sanguine temperament, and the least thing occasions in me an inflammation.* Another foreign physician writes thus: *In reality, Tarwater is of such a mild nature, that it never can inflame, nor create an inflammation in the blood. I have experienced it myself, and blessed thanks be to the bishop of his valuable discovery.*

318. Several ladies, who had received great benefit by Tarwater, at the same time recovered their complexions and bloom; some found it to agree best with them an hour or two

after eating. An old lady has been greatly relieved by drinking, constantly every day, no more than one wine-glass in the morning.

319. Several have been disappointed and abused by bad Tarwater; such Tarwater, as is of a brown colour, or sweetish flat taste, is bad; but they who have once drank good Tarwater, can easily distinguish the bad, which has no spirit. Liquid tar, which is the first running from the burnt billets, is generally the best. And yet no certain judgment can be formed of the goodness of tar, by the colour or consistence, till trial be made, by making Tarwater of it. When a vessel of tar has stood long on an end, a sediment often falls to the bottom, which should not be made use of for Tarwater.

320. Two physicians prescribed the bark with Tarwater: but the patients found no benefit, till they took the Tarwater alone. Some have put a drop of the oil of nutmegs to a glass of Tarwater, which made it more palatable; others have added a small spoonful of mead, white-wine, or cyder, which made the draught more agreeable; but it is better no spirits should be taken with it, or any thing else that might weaken the virtue.

321. Those who expect the whole benefit of Tarwater, should be very temperate in the use of strong liquors fermented or distilled. They weaken the powers of Tarwater, which of itself is a sufficient cordial, which animates the heart without disordering the brain, and is an antidote against cold, fatigue, and thirst. It may therefore be of use in our armies and fleets.

322. They who railed against Tarwater



water on the first publication of *Siris*, insisted that particular cases, with all their circumstances, should have been exhibited to the publick, that they might examine into the truth, and be better able to judge of the effects of this water. The names of persons, who were alledged as instances of the virtues thereof, were not mentioned in *Siris*. On this omission they triumphed, and treated the whole with ridicule. But this narrative sufficiently supplies that defect, and is the best answer to all their objections, which are directly against matter of fact.

323. It is very probable that I shall be condemned by some, for being so greatly possessed in favour of Tarwater. I own I am, but it is for the best reason in the world. I am fully convinced of its efficacy. If there are any, who have doubts, they may repair, or write to the patients themselves, whose names and places of abode are herein mentioned for that very purpose, and be fully satisfied of the truth of all, or any of the cases herein related, which it would have been very wrong, and even criminal in me to have suppressed.

324. The variety of these cases will direct any person where to find a cure in particular disorders, for which they might not otherwise think of Tarwater.

325. After the foregoing sheets were printed off, the following cases came to my knowledge.

326. *Martha Quarle*, about 11 years old, now living in *Dolphins-barn-lane*, soon after the hard frost was afflicted with running sores, and holes in one of her hands and arms, and under one of her eyes, which continued to increase, insomuch that it infected her upper jaw; she was sent

to *Mercers* hospital, where she stayed three weeks, and the sore under her eye was a little healed; but in a fortnight after she left the hospital, it broke out again, and a splinter of a bone came off from her hand. In 1744 her parents gave her Tarwater, half a pint a day, and applied a plaister of tar to all the sores, and a large tent covered with the plaister to the hole under her eye: in a little time, a large piece of her jaw-bone, with some of her teeth, came off, and by drinking the water, and applying the plaisters for near 3 months, all her sores healed, and she perfectly recovered, and continues well.

327. *Wm Murray*, 12 years old, son of *Matthew Murray*, in *Black-horse lane*, had running sores in his hands and legs soon after the great frost, so that he was not able to stir a foot, and had great pains in his head for a year. The boy drank Tarwater, which in a fortnight's time carried off the pains, and then applied the Tar plaister to the sores a little before last *Christmas*, whereby all the sores are healed up, leaving marks in his arm. He still drinks Tarwater, and finds himself very hearty.

328. A gentlewoman, aged 21 years, from 3 years old had a running evil in one of her hands, and her jaws. She was at the waters of *Loughleab*, and long under the care of surgeons without benefit. Splinters of bone came from her hands. In 1744 she drank Tarwater in small quantities, and applied the plaister of Tar, which in 4 months time healed them up, and she is now perfectly well.

329. *James Moony*, shoe-maker, in *Stafford-street*: in the winter after the great frost, was afflicted with running sores,

fores, which broke out in his left-hand, and in his back, and disabled him from following his trade, and for which he tryed many things without any benefit. He attended at the infirmary on the *Imms-quay*, for 2 months, where many surgeons practised upon him; but got no relief, and was at last told by them, that there was no other remedy than to cut off his hand above the wrist: upon which, he attended no more. But in *August* 1745, he was advised to drink Tarwater; which he did for 2 months, about a pint a day, and washed the fores with the same liquor, and the effect was, that the fores began to heal in the second month, and most of them were healed up in the end of that month, and he recovered his appetite and spirits, and then laid aside Tarwater, before he was perfectly cured, having 2 small fores not quite healed; but he has began to drink it again, and finds himself much better, and hopes to perfect his cure in a little time.

330. It is probable these 4 patients would have been sooner cured, if they had taken Tarwater in greater plenty; half a pint a day was too little: in such grievous cases, a quart a day should have been taken, which might have recovered the patients in half the time, as we find in *sect* 249, 250, 251, 255, and the water should not be laid aside, till they were perfectly cured.

331. In some hospitals, were patients have had their hands, arms, or legs, swollen and inflamed with terrible running fores, which ate into the bones, and which could not be cured by any of their medicines, the surgeons well skill'd in such cases, for fear of a gangrene or mortification, sometimes cut off the limb; which, if it doth not end with the death of

the patient, reduces him at least to want and beggary. Several patients mentioned in this narrative, were condemned to the knife, as the only means to save their lives, yet they were afterwards recovered by the use of Tarwater, and perfectly restored to the use of their limbs, without amputation: and it is to be hoped that, for the future, we shall hear but little of a practice so shocking to nature, since we find that Tarwater not only prevents those ailments from coming to a dangerous height, but cures them when they do. Whereas *when the whole mass of blood is corrupted, the cutting off a limb will scarce cure the corruption, which will be apt to break out in some other part.*

332. The murrain, which rages among the horned cattle, appears by its symptoms to be a kind of fever; it is recommended that Tarwater be tryed in the following manner: "Let the sick beast have poured down its throat a quart of warm Tarwater, made stronger than usual, by stirring each gallon 8 or 10 minutes, and this to be repeated every hour or two for the first day, while the beast is awake. On the second, let one half of the former quantity be given, and on the third day, half of that which was given on the second: which last quantity is to be continued till the cure is perfected; during which time, the beast should be housed, and lie warm." I have no experience of the success of this method, as there is no infection of that kind in this kingdom, but recommend it from the analogous effects that Tarwater hath in curing fevers and infections.

333. I shall add only the two following letters from the author of *Sin-ij*.

*A LETTER to Thomas Prior, Esq; from the author of Siris ; containing some further remarks on the virtues of TARWATER, and the methods for preparing and using it.*

*Non sibi, sed toti.*

*Nothing is more difficult and disagreeable, than to argue men out of their prejudices ; I shall not, therefore, enter into contro-versies on this subject, but if men dispute and object, shall leave the decision to time and trial. SIRIS, sect. 68.*

1. **A**MONG the great numbers who drink Tarwater in *Dublin*, your letter informs me, there are some that make or use it in an undue manner. To obviate these inconveniences, and render this water as generally useful as possible, you desire I would draw up some general rules and remarks in a small compass, which accordingly I here send you.

2. Pour a gallon of cold water on a quart of liquid tar, in a glazed earthen vessel ; stir, mix and work them thoroughly together, with a wooden ladle, or flat stick, for the space of 5 or 6 minutes. Then let the vessel stand close covered *three days and nights*, that the tar may have full time to subside. After which having first carefully skimmed it, without moving the vessel, pour off the clear water, and keep it in bottles, well cork'd, for use : this method will produce a liquor stronger than that first published in *Siris*, but not offensive if carefully skimmed. It is a good general rule, but as stomachs and constitutions are various, it may admit of some latitude. Less water, or more stirring, makes it stronger, as more water, or less stirring, makes it weaker. It is to be noted, that if several gallons are made at once in the same vessel, you must add 5 or 6 minutes stirring for every gallon. Thus two gallons of water, and 2 quarts of tar, require 10 or 12 minutes stirring.

3. The same tar will not do so well a second time, but may serve for other common uses : the putting off tar that hath been used, for fresh tar, would be a bad fraud. To prevent which, it is to be noted, that tar already used is of a lighter brown than other tar. The only tar that I have used, is that from our northern colonies in *America*, and that from *Norway* ; the latter being thinner, mixeth easier with water, and seems to have more spirit. If the former be made use of (as I have known it with good success) the Tarwater will require longer stirring to make it.

4. Tarwater, when right, is not paler than *French*, nor deeper coloured than *Spanish* white-wine, and full as clear ; if there be not a spirit very sensibly perceived in drinking, you may conclude the Tarwater is not good ; if you would have it good, see it made yourself. Those who begin with it, little and weak, may, by habit, come to drink more and stronger. According to the season, or the humour of the patient, it may be drank either cold or warm :



## 64 *A Letter from the Author of Siris*

warm : in colics I take it to be best warm. If it disgusts a patient warm, let him try it cold, and *vice versa*. If at first it creates, to some squeamish persons, a little sickness at stomach, or nauseating, it may be reduced both in quality and quantity. In general, small inconveniencies are either removed, or borne with small trouble ; it lays under no restraint, as to air, exercise, cloaths, or diet, and may be taken at all times of the year.

5. As to the quantity in *common chronical indispositions*, one pint of Tarwater a day may suffice, taken on an empty stomach, at 2 or 4 times, to wit, night and morning, and about 2 hours after dinner and breakfast ; more may be taken by strong stomachs. Alteratives in general, taken in small doses, and often, mix best with the blood ; how oft, or how strong each stomach can bear, experience will shew. But those who labour under *great and inveterate maladies*, must drink a greater quantity, at least one quart every 24 hours, taken at 4, 6, or 8 glasses, as best suits the circumstances and case of the drinker. All of this class must have much patience and perseverance in the use of this, as well as of all other medicines, which, if sure and safe, must yet, from the nature of things, be slow in the cure of inveterate chronical disorders. In *acute cases, fevers, of all kinds*, it must be drank *in bed warm*, and in *great quantity*, (the fever still enabling the patient to drink) perhaps a *pint every hour*, which I have known to work surprising cures. But it works so quick, and gives such spirits, that the patients often think themselves cured before the fever hath quite left them. Such therefore should not be impatient to rise, or apply themselves too soon to business, or their usual diet.

6. To some, perhaps, it may seem, that a slow alterative in chronical cases, cannot be depended on in fevers and acute distempers, which demand immediate relief. But I affirm, that this same medicine, which is a slow alterative in chronical cases, I have found to be also a most immediate remedy, when copiously taken, in acute and inflammatory cases. It might indeed be thought rash to have tried it in the most threatening fevers and pleurisies without bleeding, which in the common practice would have been held necessary. But for this I can say, that I have patients who would not be bled, and this obliged me to make trials of Tarwater without bleeding, which trials I never knew unsuccessful. The same Tarwater I found a *slow alterative*, and a *sudden febrifuge*. If the reader is surprized, I own myself to be so too. But truth is truth, and from whatever hand it comes, should be candidly received. If physicians think they have a right to treat of religious matters, I think I have an equal right to treat of medicine.

7. Authority I have no pretence to ; but reason is the common birth-right of all : my reasons I have given in *Siris* : my motives every one will interpret from his own breast ; but he must own himself a very bad man, who, in my case, (that is, after long experience, and under full conviction of the virtues and innocence of Tarwater) would not have done as much. All men are, I will not say allowed, but obliged to promote the common benefit ; and for this end, what I could not in conscience conceal, that I do, and shall publicly declare, maugre all the spleen and raillery of a world, which cannot treat me worse than it hath done my betters. 2 As



8. As the morning's draught is most difficult to nice stomachs, such may lessen, or even omit it, at the beginning, or rather postpone it till after breakfast, and take a larger dose at night. The distance from meal-time need not be more than one hour, for common stomachs, when the liquor is well clarified and skimmed. The oil that floats on the top, and was skimmed off, should be carefully laid by, and kept for outward sores. In the variety of cases and constitutions, it is not amiss that there should be different manners of preparing and taking Tarwater: trial will direct to the best. Whether there be any difference between old tar, or new tar, or which of all the various tars, produced from different trees, or in different parts of the world, is most medicinal, future trials must determine.

9. I have made a second sort of Tarwater, to be used externally, as a wash or lotion, for the *itch, scabs, ulcers, evil, leprosy*, and all such foul cases, which I have tried with very good success, and recommend it to the trial of others. For inveterate cases of that kind, Tarwater should be drank, a *quart* every 24 hours, at 4, 6, or 8 glasses; and after this hath been done, at least for a *fortnight*, the *lotion* is to be applied outwardly, and warm, by bathing, fomenting, and sleeping, and this several times in the 24 hours, to heal and dry up the sores, the drinking being still continued. This water, for external use, is made in the following manner: pour 2 quarts of hot boiling water on a quart of tar, stir and work it strongly, with a flat stick, or ladle, for a full quarter of an hour; let it stand 6 hours, then pour it off, and keep it close covered for use. It may be made weaker or stronger, as there is occasion.

10. From what I have observed of the *lotion*, I am inclined no think, it may be worth while, in *obstinate and cutaneous ailments, leprosy*, and *weakness of limbs*, to try a *bath* of Tarwater; allowing a gallon of tar to every 10 gallons of boiling hot water; stirring the ingredients a full half hour; suffering the vessel to stand 8 or 10 hours, before the water is poured off, and using the bath a little more than milk-warm. This experiment may be made in different proportions of tar and water. In *Dublin* many cases occur for trial, which are not to be met with in the country.

11. My experiments have been made in various cases, and on many persons; and I make no doubt its virtues will soon be more fully discovered, as Tarwater is now growing into general use, tho' not without that opposition which usually attends upon novelty. The great objection I find made to this medicine is, that it promises too much. What! say the objectors, do you pretend to a Panacea? a thing strange, chimerical, and contrary to the opinion and experience of all mankind. Now, to speak out, and give this objection, or question, a direct answer, I freely own, that I *suspect* Tarwater is a Panacea. I may be mistaken, but it is worth trial; for the chance of so great and general benefit, I am willing to stand the ridicule of proposing it. And as the old philosopher cried aloud, from the house tops, to his fellow citizens, *educate your children*; so, I confess, if I had a situation high enough, and a voice loud enough, I would cry out to all valetudinarians upon earth *drink Tarwater*.

12. Having thus frankly owned the charge, I must explain to you, that by a panacea is not meant a medicine which cures all individuals ( this consists not with mortality but a medicine that cures or relieves all the different species of distempers : and if God hath given us so great a blessing, and made a medicine so cheap and plenty as Tar, to be withal so universal in its effects, to ease the miseries of human life, shall men be ridiculed or bantered out of its use, especially when they run no risque in the trial ? For *I can truly affirm, that I never knew any harm attend it*, more than sometimes a little nausea, which if the liquor be well cleared, skimmed and bottled, need not, I think, be apprehended.

13. It must be owned I have not had opportunities of trying it myself in all cases, neither will I undertake to demonstrate *a priori*, that Tarwater is a panacea. But yet, methinks, I am not quite destitute of probable reasons, which, joined to what facts I have observed, induced me to entertain such a suspicion.

14. I knew Tar was used to preserve cattle from contagion ; and this may be supposed to have given rise to that practice of drinking Tarwater for a preservative against the *small pox*. But as the Tarwater used for that purpose was made by mixing equal quantities of tar and water, it proved a most offensive potion ; besides, as a fresh glass of water was put in for each glass that was taken out, and this, for many days, on the same Tar, it followed that the water was not equally impregnated with the fine volatile spirit, tho' all alike strongly saturated with gross particles.

15. Having found this nauseous draught very useful against the *small-pox*, to as many as could be prevailed on to take it, I began to consider the nature of Tar. I reflected that Tar is a balsam flowing from the trunks of aged ever-greens ; that it resists putrefaction ; that it hath the virtues of turpentine, which, in medicine, are known to be very great and manifold ; but I observed withal, that turpentine, or balsams, are very offensive in the taking : I therefore considered distinctly the several constituent parts of balsams ; which were those, wherein the medicinal virtues resided, and which were to be regarded rather as a viscous matrix, to receive, arrest, and retain the more volatile and active particles ; and if these last could be so separated and disengaged from the grosser parts, as to impregnate a clear and potable liquor, I concluded, that such liquor must prove a medicine of great force, and general use. I considered, that nature was the best chymist and preparer of medicines, and that the fragrance and flavour of Tar argued very active qualities and virtues.

16. I had, of a long time, entertained an opinion, agreeable to the sentiments of many antient philosophers, *That fire may be regarded as the animal spirit of this visible world*. And it seemed to me, that the attracting and secreting of this fire in the various pores, tubes, and ducts of vegetables, did impart their specifick virtues to each kind ; that this same light, or fire, was the immediate instrumental or physical cause of sense and motion, and consequently of life and health to animals ; that on account of this solar light,

or fire, *Phœbus* was, in the antient mythology, reputed the god of medicine : which light, as it is leisurely introduced, and fixed in the viscid juice of old firs and pines, so the setting it free in part, that is, the changing its viscid for a volatile vehicle, which may mix with water, and convey it throughout the habit copiously and inoffensively, would be of infinite use in physick, extending to all cases whatsoever, inasmuch as all distempers are, in effect, a struggle between the *vis vitæ* and the peculiar miasma, or *fomes morbi*; and nothing strengthens nature, or lends such aid and vigour to life as a cordial which doth not heat.

17. The solar light, in great quantity, during the space of many successive years, being attracted and detained in the juice of antient ever-greens, doth form and lodge itself in an oil so fine and volatile, as shall mix well with water, and lightly pass the *primæ viæ*, and penetrate every part and capillary of the organical system, when once exempt and freed from the grosser nauseous resin. It will not therefore seem unreasonable, to whoever is acquainted with the medicinal virtues of turpentine in so many different distempers, for which it hath been celebrated both by antient and modern physicians, and withal reflects on the nausea, or clog, that prevents their full operation and effect on the human body; it will not, I say, seem unreasonable to such a one to suppose, that, if this same clog were removed, numberless cures might be wrought in a great variety of cases.

18. The *desideratum* was, how to separate the active particles from the heavy viscid substance, which served to attract and retain them, and so to order matters, that the vehicle of the spirit should not, on the one hand, be volatile enough to escape, nor on the other, gross enough to offend. For the performing of this, I have found a most easy, simple, and effectual method, which furnished a potable inoffensive liquor, clear and fine as the best white-wine, cordial and stomachic, to be kept bottled, as being endued with a very sensible spirit, tho' not fermented.

19. I tried many experiments as to the quantity of water, and the time of stirring and standing, in order to impregnate and clarify it, and, after all, fixed on the forementioned receipt, as the most generally useful for making this salutiferous liquor well impregnated, and not offensive to common stomachs, and even drank with pleasure by many : in which the most medicinal and active particles, that is, the native salts and volatile oil of the balsam, being disentangled and separated from its gross oil and viscous resin, do, combined together, form a fine balsamic and vegetable soap, which not only can pass the stomach and *Primæ viæ*, but also insinuate itself into the minutest capillaries, and freely pervade the whole animal system; and that in such full proportion and measure, as suiteth every case and constitution.

20. The foregoing general considerations put me upon making experiments in many various and unlike cases, which otherwise I should never have thought of doing, and the success answered my hopes. Philosophical principles led me to make safe trials, and on those trials is founded my opinion of the salutary virtues of Tarwater; which virtues are recommended from,



from, and depend on, experiments and matters of fact, and neither stand nor fall with any theories or speculative principles whatever. Howbeit, those theories, as I said, enlarged my views of this medicine, led me to a greater variety of trials, and thereby engendered and nourished my suspicion, that it is a panacea. I have been the more prolix in these particulars, hoping that, to as many as shall candidly weigh and consider them, the high opinion I conceive of this medicine, will not seem altogether an effect of vain prepossession, or blind empiric rashness, but rather the result of free thought and enquiry, and grounded on my best reason, judgment, and experience.

21. Those who have only the good of mankind at heart, will give this medicine fair play ; if there be any who act from other motives, the publick will look sharp and beware. To do justice to Tarwater, as well as to those who drink it, regard must be had to the particular strength and case of the patients. Grievous or inveterate maladies must not be treated as common cases. I cured a horrible case, a *gangrene in the blood*, which had broke out in several *sores*, and threatened speedy death, by obliging the person to drink nothing but this liquor for several weeks, as much and as often as his stomach would bear. Common sense will direct a proportionable conduct in the other cases. But this must be left to the conscience and discretion of the givers and takers.

22. After all that can be said, it is most certain, that a panacea sounds odd, and conveys somewhat shocking to the ear and sense of most men, who are wont to rank the universal medicine with the philosophers stone, and the squaring of the circle ; whereof the chief, if not sole reason, I take to be, that it is thought incredible, the same thing should produce contrary effects, as it must do, if it cures opposite distempers. And yet this is no more than every day's experience verifies. Milk, for instance, makes some costive, and others laxative : This regards the possibility of a panacea in general ; as for Tarwater in particular, I do not say it is a panacea, I only *suspect* it to be so. — Time and tryal will shew.

23. But I am most sincerely persuaded, from what I have already seen and tried, that Tarwater may be drank with great safety and success, for the cure or relief of most, if not all diseases ; of *ulcers, itch, scald-heads, leprosy, kings-evil, cancers*, the foul disease, and all foul cases ; *scurvies* of all kinds, disorders of the *lungs, stomach, and bowels*, in *rheumatic, gouty and nephritic ailments, megrims*, inveterate *head-achs, epilepsies, pleurisies, peripneumonies, erysipelas, small-pox*, all kinds of *fevers, colics, hysteric* and all nervous cases ; *obstructions, dropsies, decays*, and other maladies. Note that for *agues* it should be drank warm, and often, in small glasses, both in and out of the fit, and continued for several days to prevent a relapse. Nor is it of use only in the cure of sickness, it is also useful to preserve health, and guard against infection, and in some measure even against old age, as it gives lasting spirits, and invigorates the blood. I am even induced, by the nature and analogy of things, and its wonderful success in fevers of all kinds, to think that Tarwater may be very useful against the *plague*, both as a *preservative* and a *cure*.

24. But

24. But I doubt no medicine can withstand *that execrable plague* of *distilled spirits*, which do all, without exception, ( there being a caustic and coagulating quality in all distilled spirits, whatever the subject or ingredients may be ) operate as a slow poison, preying on the vitals, and wasting the health and strength of body and soul ; which pest of human kind is, I am told, gaining ground in this country, already too thin of inhabitants. *I am &c.*

*A Second* LETTER *from the Author of Siris,*  
to Thomas Prior, Esq;

1. **Y**OUR attention to whatever promotes the publick good of your country, or the common benefit of mankind, having engaged you in a particular enquiry concerning the virtues and effects of Tarwater, you are entitled to know, what farther discoveries, observations and reflections I have made on that subject.

2. Tarwater, in the several editions of *Siris*, hath been directed to be made by stirring 3, 4, 5, or 6 minutes, a gallon of water, and a quart of tar. But although it seem best made, for general use, within those limits, yet the stomach of the patient is the best rule, whereby to direct the strength of the water ; with a little more stirring, 6 quarts of good Tarwater may be made from one of Tar ; and with 8 minutes stirring, I have known a gallon of Tarwater produced from *second hand* Tar, which proved a good remedy in a very bad fever, *when better Tar could not be had.* For the use of travellers, a Tarwater may be made very strong, for instance, with 1 quart of water, and a quart of Tar, stirred together for the space of 20 minutes. A bottle of this may serve long on a road, a little being put to each glass of common water, more or less, as you would have it stronger or weaker. Near 10 years ago, a quart of about this strength was given to an old woman, to be taken at one draught by direction of a young lady, who had consulted one in my family, about the method of preparing and giving Tarwater, which yet she happened to mistake. But even thus, it did service in the main, though it wrought the patient violently all manner of ways. Which shews, that errors and excesses in Tarwater, are not so dangerous, as in other medicines.

3. The best Tar, I take to be that, which is *most liquid*, or *first running* from the billets of fir or *pine*, which grew on the mountains : it hath a greater share of those antiscorbutic vegetable juices, which are contained not only in the leaves and tender tops, but in all parts of the wood ; and these, together with the *salts of woodscot*, being in the composition of Tar super-added to *turpentine*, render Tarwater a medicine, if I am not mistaken, much more extensive and efficacious, than any that can be obtained from *turpentine alone.*

4. The virtues of the wood-juices shew themselves in spruce beer, made of molasses, and the black spruce fir in the northern parts of *America* ; and the

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the young shoots of our common spruce-fir have been put to malt-liquor in my own family, and make a very wholesome drink.

5. Tarwater seldom fails to cure, or relieve, when rightly made of good Tar, and duly taken. I say, of *good Tar*, because the vile practice of adulterating Tar, or of felling the dregs of Tar, or used Tar for fresh, is grown frequent, to the great wrong of those who take it. Whoever hath been used to *good Tarwater*, can readily discern the *bad* by its flat taste, void of that warm cordial quality found in the former; it may also be expedient for knowing fresh Tar, to observe, whether a fat *oily scum* floats on the top of the water, *which is found to be much less, if any at all, on the second making of Tarwater.*

6. This medicine of Tarwater worketh various ways, by *urine*, by *perspiration*, as a *sudorific*, *carminative*, *cardiac*, *astringent*, *detergent*, *restorative*, *alterative*, and sometimes as a *gentle purgative* or *emetic*, according to the case or constitution of the patient, or to the quantity that is taken; and its operation should not be disturbed. I knew 2 brothers ill of a *fever* about the same time; it wrought on the one by copious *sweating*, on the other altogether by *urine*; and I have known it to act at different times differently, even on the same person, and in the same disorder; one while as a *diaphoretic*, or *sudorific*, another as a *diuretic*. Its general character is *diuretic*, which shews, that it cleanseth the urinary passages, *preventing* thereby both *stone* and *gravel*, against which it hath been found very useful, and much safer than mineral waters, by reason of its balsamic healing quality.

7. Tarwater doth recover and impart vital heat, but imparts no inflaming heat. I have seen a wonderful cure wrought on a child about 8 years old, and past all hopes, by pouring several spoonfuls of Tarwater down his throat, as he lay quite subdued by a *most violent fever*, without any appearance of sense or motion, the nostrils drawn back, the eyes fixed, the complexion deadly wan. And yet Tarwater, forced down by spoonfuls, seem'd to kindle up life a-new; and this after sage-tea, saffron, milk water, venice-treacle, &c. had been used without any success.

8. This is of itself a sufficient *cordial*, friendly and congenial to the vital heat and spirits of a man. If therefore *strong liquors* are in the accustomed quantity superadded, the blood being already, by Tarwater, sufficiently warmed for vital heat, the strong liquors superadded will be apt to over-heat it, which over-heating is not to be imputed to the Tarwater, since, taken alone, I could never observe it attended with that symptom.

9. And tho' it may be no easy matter to persuade such as have long indulged themselves in the free use of *strong fermented liquors* and *stilled spirits*, to forsake their pernicious habits; yet I am myself thoroughly persuaded, that in *weakness* or *fatigue* of body, or in *low spirits*, Tarwater alone doth far surpass all those vulgarly esteemed cordials, which heat and intoxicate, and which coagulate the fluids, and, by their caustic force, dry up, stiffen, and destroy the fine vessels and fibres of the unhappy drinkers, obstructing the secretions, impairing the animal functions, producing various disorders, and



and bringing on the untimely ſymptoms of old age. *Nothing doth ſo much obſtruct the good effects of Tarwater, as the abuſe of ſtrong liquors.* Where this is avoided, it ſeems no chronical malady can keep its ground, or ſtand before Tarwater conſtantly and regularly taken, not even *hereditary diſtempers*, as the *moſt inveterate king's-evil*, nor even the *moſt confirmed gout*; provided it be drank *a quart a day*, at ſix or 8 glaſſes, and at all ſeaſons, both in and out of the fit, and that for a great length of time, the longer the better. It is to be noted, that in *fits of the gout, colic, or fever*, it ſhould be *always drank warm*. On other occaſions, warm or cold, as the patient likes.

10. The inference I make is, that thoſe who expect health from Tarwater, have leſs need of any other cordial, and would do well to ſacrifice ſome part of their pleaſure to their health. At the ſame time I will venture to affirm, that a *fever* produced either from hard drinking, or any other cauſe, is moſt effectually and ſpeedily ſubdued, by abſtaining from all other cordials, and plentifully drinking of Tarwater: for it warms the cold, and cools the hot; ſimple water may cool, but this, at the ſame time that it cools, gives life and ſpirit. It is, in truth, a *ſpecific* for all kinds of *fevers*; the ſame medicine, which is a leiſurely alterative in chronical diſorders, being taken in larger quantities, is a ſpeedy cure in acute ones.

11. Thoſe who, without knowledge or experience of Tarwater, have been ſo active and earneſt to diſcredit its virtues, have much to answer for, eſpecially with regard to *acute inflammatory diſtempers*, in which it doth wonders. It is in thoſe diſorders, ſo fatal and frequent, that I have had moſt opportunities of obſerving its virtues, nor can the world ever know the juſt value of this medicine, but by trying it in the like caſes.

12. When patients are given over, and all known methods fail, it is allowed to try new remedies. If Tarwater was tried in ſuch caſes, I do verily believe, that many patients might thereby be reſcued from the jaws of death: particularly, I would recommend the tryal of it, in the *moſt malignant and deſperate fevers* or *ſmall-pox*, attended with *purple, livid, or black ſpots*. It is my ſincere opinion, that *warm Tarwater*, drank copiouſly, may often prove ſalutary, even in thoſe deplorable caſes.

13. My opinion is grounded on its ſingular virtues in correcting, ſweetening, and invigorating the blood, and in curing *cancers* and *gangrens*, or *beginning mortifications*, ſuch as thoſe ſpots do indicate. I have lately known it drunk with good ſucceſs in a very painful and unpromiſing wound; and am perſuaded, that if it were drank plentifully, during the dreſſing of all ſorts of *dangerous wounds*, it might aſſuage the anguiſh, and forward the cure; as it abates feveriſh ſymptoms, and by rendering the blood baſmamic, and diſpoſing the parts to heal, prevents a *gangrene*.

14. Tar itſelf is an excellent medicine, being ſpread on a cloth, and applied *warm* to an ulcer or wound. I have known the ſame applied to a very large and painful *tumour*, cauſed by a *ſprain* or *bruife*, ſpeedily aſſuage the pain, and reduce the ſwelling. I may add, that *tar* (mixed with *honey* to make it leſs offensive, and) taken inwardly, is an admirable baſam for the

lung;

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lungs; and a little of this, taken together with *Tarwater*, hastens its effect in curing the most obstinate and wasting *coughs*; and an egg shell full of *tar*, swallowed and washed down with a quart of *Tarwater*, night and morning, hath been found very useful for the same disorder in *horses*.

15. Sitting over the vapour of the *heated lotion*, described in my former letter, is excellent in the case of *piles* or *fistula*; especially if fomenting with the said *lotion* be added, as also anointing with the *oil scummed* from the top of *Tarwater*. *Tarwater* hath been snuffed up the nostrils, with good success, for a *great heaviness of the head* and *drowsiness*. It is a very useful wash for *weak, dry, or itching eyes*; an excellent preservative for the *teeth* and *gums*; also a good drink and gargle for a  *sore throat*; I may add, that I have known it succeed in cases where it has been tried without hopes of success, particularly in *deafness*. I have known life sustained many days together, only by drinking of *Tarwater*, without any other nourishment, and without any remarkable diminution of strength or spirit; it may therefore be of singular use, and save many lives in the distress of famine at sea, or in sieges, and in seasons of great scarcity. The virtue of *Tarwater* flowing like the *Nile*,\* from a secret and occult source, brancheth into innumerable channels, conveying health and relief, wherever it is applied; nor is it more easy and various in its use, than copious in quantity. How great havoc, is made by the *small pox*, raging like a plague, in *New-England*, and other parts of *America*, which yet abound with *tar*! and how many thousand *sailors*, in all parts of the world, are rotting by the *scurvy* with their remedy at hand!

16. Many in this Town of *Cloyne* have, by the copious drinking of *Tarwater* alone, been recovered of the *most violent fevers*, attended with the most threatening symptoms, and much heightened by relapses from mismanagement. It would be tedious to enumerate all the cases of this kind, which have happened at *Cloyne*, and in my own family; where *many fevers*, *pleuritic*, as well as *others*, attended with violent stitches, difficulty of breathing, and spitting of blood, have been cured by *Tarwater*; and this I can with truth affirm, that *I never knew it regularly tried, in any inflammatory case, without success*: but then it must be given *in bed, warm, and very copiously*, with all due caution against cold, noise, and improper diet.

17. I have often observed, when a patient, on the first attack of a *fever*, hath betaken himself to his bed, and drank *Tarwater* regularly and constantly, that he hath had such favourable symptoms, so good appetite, and so sound sleep, that the fever passed almost as nothing; nor was to be distinguished otherwise, than by a quickness of pulse, a little feverish heat, and thirst. The more that patients in a fever, drink, the better they find themselves; and their liking to *Tarwater* grows with their want of it, by a certain instinct or dictate of nature; insomuch that I have known children in very high fevers, who, at other times, could hardly be prevailed on to drink a single glass, drink 6 or 8 in an hour.

18. I

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\* The *Nile* was by the antient *Egyptians* called *Siris*, which word also signifies, in *Greek*, a chain, tho' not so commonly used as *Sira*.

18. I can truly affirm that for the cases within my own observation, *inflammatory acute* distempers cured by Tarwater, have been, at least, ten times the number of any other. These indeed ofteneft occur, as causing the chief destruction and general ravage of mankind ; who are consequently debarred from the principal use and benefit of this medicine so long, as they give ear to the suggestions of those, who, without any experience thereof, would persuade them, it is of an heating or inflaming nature ; which suggestion, as I am convinced myself, by long and manifold experience, that it is absolutely false, so may all others also be sufficiently convinced of its falshood, by the wonderful fact attested by a solemn affidavit of captain *Drape*, at *Liverpool* ; whereby it appears, that of 170 negroes seized at once by the *small-pox* on the coast of *Guinea*, one only died, who refused to drink Tarwater ; and the remaining 169, all recovered by drinking it, without any other medicine, notwithstanding the heat of the climate, and the incommodities of the vessel. A fact so well vouched must, with all unbyassed men, outweigh the positive assertions of those, who have declared themselves adversaries of Tarwater, on the score of its pretended heating or inflaming quality.

19. The skill and learning of those gentlemen, in their profession, I shall not dispute ; but yet it seems strange, that they should without experience pronounce at once, concerning the virtues of Tarwater, and ascribe to it pernicious qualities, which I, who had watched its workings and effects for years together, could never discover. These 3 last years, I have taken it my self without one day's intermission ; others in my family have taken it near the same time, and those of different ages and sexes ; several in the neighbourhood have done as much, all without any injury, and with much benefit.

20. It is to be noted, the skin and the belly are antagonists ; that is, the more passeth by *perspiration*, the less will pass another way. Medicines therefore, which cause the patient to perspire, will be apt to make him *costive*. Therefore, when Tarwater worketh much by *perspiration*, the body may chance to be *bound*. But such a symptom, tho' it should be attended with a little more than ordinary warmth, need not be dreaded by the patient ; it being only a sign, that his cure is carried on by driving the pecant matter thro' the skin ; which is one of the ways, whereby Tarwater worketh its effect. And when this effect or cure is wrought, the body of itself returneth to its former natural state ; and if some have been bound in their bodies, I have known others affected in a *contrary manner* upon drinking Tarwater, as it hath happened to operate either in the shape of a diaphoretic, or of a gentle opening medicine. I have even known a costive habit more than once removed by it, and that, when the case was inveterate, and other methods had failed.

21. I mentioned the foregoing article, upon calling to mind, that 2 or 3 patients had, for a time, complained of a *binding quality* in Tarwater. I likewise remember that one in a high degree of the *scurvy* was discouraged from the use of Tarwater, by its having caused an uneasy *itching* all over his body. But this was a good symptom, which shewed the pecant hu-

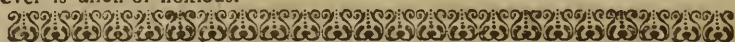


mours to be put in motion, and in a fair way of being discharged through the skin.

22. An humour or flatus put in motion, and dislodged from one part, often produceth new pains in some other part ; and an efficacious medicine, as it produceth a change in the œconomy, may be attended with some uneasiness, which yet is not to be accounted a distemper, but only an effect or *symptom* of the cure.

23. The salts of Tarwater have nothing of the fiery and corrosive nature of lixivial salts produced by the incineration of the subject ; they not being fixed salts, made by the extreme force of fire, but volatile salts, such as pre-existed in the vegetable, and would have ascended in smoke, if not prevented by the fods or covering of the billet piles. This tho' already hinted in *Siris*, and plain from the manner of making Tar, I have thought fit to repeat and inculcate, because, if duly attended to, it may obviate suspicions about Tarwater, proceeding only from an ignorance of its nature.

24. Every step that I advanced in discovering the virtues of Tarwater, my own wonder and surprize increased, as much as theirs to whom I mentioned them : nor could I without great variety and evidence of facts, ever have been induced to suspect, that, in all sorts of ailments whatsoever, it might relieve or cure, which at first sight may seem incredible and unaccountable ; but on maturer thought, will perhaps appear to agree with, and follow from the nature of things. For it is to be noted, that the general notion of a disease seemeth to consist in this, that what is taken in, is not duly assimilated by the force of the animal œconomy ; therefore it should seem whatever assists the *vis vitæ* may be of general use in all diseases, enabling nature either to assimilate, or discharge all unsubdued humours and particles whatsoever. But the light or æther detained on the volatile oyl, which impregnates Tarwater, being of the same nature with the animal spirit, is an accession of so much strength to the constitution, which it assists to assimilate or expel whatever is alien or noxious.



## A P P E N D I X

*Containing the most material Extracts from Two Tracts wrote by those learned Philosophers Dr. STEPHEN HALES, Fellow of the Royal Society, and A. REID, Esq; printed at London in 1747: With some Observations of the several Sorts of Tar used in Boston in New-England. By T. P.*

THE first Tract is entituled — “ *An Account of some Experiments and Observations on Tar-water ; wherein is shown the Quantity of Tar that* ”

“ is therein : which was read before the Royal Society. And therein the Dr. tells us.

“ That having made *Tar-water* in proportion of a Gallon of Water to a Quart of Tar, stirring it 4 Minutes, and evaporating a Pint of said Tar-water in a Florence-Flask ; of that made with *Norway* or *Sweedish* Tar, which was 30 Years old and very thick and stiff, there remained at the Bottom of the Flask 44 Grains of thick, dark, reddish Tar, of a bitterish burnt Taste

—— “ with common, coarse, stiff *American* Tar, 28 Grains

—— “ with stiff Tar just brought from *Norway*, 61 Grains

—— “ with the old Tar stirred half an Hour — 93 Grains

—— “ with the thinner Tar stirred 8 Minutes — 26 Grains

—— “ with 4 several Parcels of *Norway* or *Sweedish* Tar, not so stiff, but more soft and oily than the Tar above, and esteemed by the Dealers in Tar to be very good [ for Ropes ] only between 5 and 15 Grains.

[ But the Dr. does not say, how long Time elapsed between his stirring of the Tar with the Water, and his *Evapouring* it : nor does he ascertain whether these Tars were of the first, middle or latter runnings from the Kiln ; in which there is a vast Difference, as the longer it burns, the more *Pitchy* the Tar grows. ]

“ That in a Pamphlet in Answer to the Bishop of Cloyn, He finds that on destilling 22 Pounds of best *Norway* Tar, there were of

|                 | Pounds. | Ounces.  |
|-----------------|---------|----------|
| Pitch — —       | 12.     | 14.      |
| Oyl — —         | 7.      | 13.      |
| Acid Spirit — — | 1.      | 2. half  |
|                 |         | <hr/>    |
|                 | 21.     | 13. half |
| Lost — —        | 0.      | 2. half  |
|                 |         | <hr/>    |

22.

“ That the *Water* made with old, stiff, less unctuous Tar seems to taste sensibly stronger of the *acid Spirit*, than that made with thinner, more unctuous Tar : on which account the stiffer would be preferable, were it not that it communicates too much of its grosser Parts also to the Water, and that the Water made with the thinner Tar tastes much stronger of Soot or Smoak than that made with the stiff Tars.

“ That in filtrating these several Tarwaters thro’ filtering Paper, no Tar nor oily Substance remained in the Paper ; not even of that Tarwater, which had 93 Grains of Tar in a Pint : Nor were the filtering Papers when dry any more inflammable where the Tar had passed than in other Parts which had not touched the Tarwater : Nor was the filtering Paper of the thinner Tar at all discoloured, though that of the stiff was as if smoaked. Whereby we see how intimately and minutely the Tar is mixed with the Water : And since Water conveys so much Tar through the Filter, no Wonder it should also be a Vehicle to convey great Quantities

“ titles of [the subtil Parts of] Tar into the Blood, as well as the medicinal  
 “ Virtue also into the finest and remotest Vessels of the Body, in the same  
 “ Manner that the Virtues of *mineral Waters* are conveyed : And Tar thus  
 “ minutely divided and blended in a great Quantity of Water, will be much  
 “ less heating than a like Quantity of Tar taken by itself, as is evident  
 “ from many like Instances.

“ That there is a *Water* which separates from Tar sometime after the  
 “ Tar is made [at the Kiln] and that in such Quantities, as to lay 3 or 4  
 “ Inches deep on the Tar : And this Water which is so strongly impreg-  
 “ nated with the *acid Spirit* as to ferment with Chalk, is drank by the *A-*  
 “ *mericans*, as a Cure of some of their Maladies.

“ That as Tar by stirring becomes of a *lighter brown* Colour ; so it will  
 “ recover its *darker* Colour by standing, and that sooner if warmed.

“ That as he made both *Tar* and *Turpentine Waters* with sweet *Rain-*  
 “ *Water*, in which were *Water-Gnats* and *other Insects* ; so ’twas very ob-  
 “ servable that the *Water-Gnats* died in 6 or 8 Hours, and the *other small*  
 “ *Insects* in 30 or 40 Hours, in *Tarwater* ; yet neither of them were killed  
 “ in the strongest *Turpentine-water* which he made, but continued brisk and  
 “ lively for *several Weeks* ; and yet we cannot thence infer that *Tarwater*  
 “ is pernicious to Mankind.

“ That *Tarwater* has undoubtedly proved an efficacious Remedy in many  
 “ Cases and Instances. And whereas in some Cases it is observed by Phy-  
 “ sicians to be *too inflammatory* ; that heating Quality may be abated by the  
 “ following Methods proposed by the ingenious Mr. Reid.

Mr. REID’s Tract is entitled, “ *A-Letter to the Rev. Dr. HALES, con-*  
*cerning the Nature of Tar, and a Method of obtaining its Medical Virtues*  
*free from its hurtful Oils, &c. — Dated London, March 25: 1747.*” And  
 therein he tells us,

“ That *Tarwater* has of late obtained such a Reputation, as to be es-  
 “ teemed by many little less than a *universal Medicine*. That though the  
 “ Number and Variety of Cures performed by it, are equally unquestiona-  
 “ ble and surprizing, and he is far from the least Inclination to depreciate  
 “ those Virtues from which so many have received Benefit, yet there want  
 “ neither Arguments nor Examples to justify a Suspicion that in several  
 “ Cases *Tarwater* is capable of doing Harm, when either prepared or used  
 “ improperly.

“ That the *gross, resinous* Parts of the Tar can communicate nothing to  
 “ cold Water but what is hurtful : On which Principle it is agreed that  
 “ *Tarwater* should not be made twice of the same Tar. That the *light,*  
 “ *æthereal Oils* [thereof] are so fiery, caustick and inflammatory, that they  
 “ cannot be safely administred *internally* without as much Caution as is ne-  
 “ cessary to essential Oils : And ’tis accordingly agreed that they ought to  
 “ be separated by skimming or filtering. That the *heavy, gross, half-burnt*  
 “ *Oils and Gums*, which sink to the Bottom of the *Tarwater* or of the *acid*  
 “ *Juice*, and therewith make a compound *muddy Liquor*, are also rejected by



by Consent as an internal Medicine for Reasons much of the same Nature. So that we are reduced to seek the medical Virtues of Tar in the *clear, greenish, acid Liquor* : And here only he believes they will be found to reside. That this seems to be the *native, nourishing Sap* of the Vegetable ; and consists of a pure Water impregnated with the *penetrating, active, acid Salts* of the Wood, by Means whereof the *finest Parts* of the *essential Oil*, are perfectly dissolved and most intimately united therewith, so as to rise together with the smallest Heat unhurt by the Fire. Mean Time, *this Oil* is altogether undiscernable to the Eye, unless by its natural, greenish Colour. And that *this Compound* therefore appears to be a *true, volatile, fluid, acid Soap* ; and both from its Composition and Experience will be found an *excellent attenuating, deobstruent, alterative Medicine*.

That we are justly cautioned against Tarwater of too deep a *brown Colour*, which is owing to the *burnt Oils* or *muddy Liquor* swimming therein : Which carries with it much of the adust, heating, inflammatory, caustick Oils and Gums. And to this we may fairly and naturally ascribe *all the Prejudice* done by Tarwater, especially to hot, bilious Constitutions. That he had lately heard an Instance to confirm him in this Way of thinking, which deserves our Notice. A *Physician* of his Acquaintance at *Dumfries*, having endeavoured according to Art, but in vain, to cure a *Servant Maid*, quite worn out with Illness, had Recourse at last to Tarwater, which in a very short Time restored her to perfect Health : The *Footman* observing this good Effect, went to the Jar in which the Tarwater stood, and took a Draught of what the Maid had left ; which proved to be the *brownish, muddy Sediment* of the Tarwater, for the Maid had drank most of what was clear. : And it produced such a terrible Inflammation in his Bowels and Blood, as had well nigh cost him his Life, which was for many Days despaired of, and his Friends called in to see him die.

That for trying the Goodness of *Tar* before, or *Tarwater* after it is made, he recommends to pour a little thereof on some Bits of *Chalk* ; if an Effervescence does not presently follow, then we may be sure the Tar or Tarwater is not fit for our Use ; but the stronger the Effervescence proves, so much the better are they to be accounted.

That he has all along taken it for granted, that Tar is possessed of *excellent Virtues*, which it communicates to cold Water by Infusion ; that this cannot be denied, because a *Multitude of Facts* have appeared to vouch it, *since* the first Publication of the benevolent Bishop of *Cloyne's* learned, elegant, entertaining Recommendation of it.

That as *Experience* is the surest Test, he appeals to the *immemorial Practice* of those who live near the Places where Tar is usually made : Who instructed by Chance, and convinced by Experience, use Tarwater for all Complaints ; they drink the pure acid Liquor which swims naturally on the Surface of the Tar, after all the *gross Parts* have subsided, and the *ethereal Oil* is skimmed off : Some take it alone, others mingled with

“ with a little Water. And it has also been *long usual* even among us [at  
 “ and about *London*] for consumptive, decayed, worn-out People, to repair  
 “ to the *Red-House* at *Deptford*, as their last Resort, there drink the clear  
 “ Liquor from the barrelled Tar, and be cured.

And he thus concludes—“ I shall esteem myself very happy if any Thing  
 “ I have said, may contribute to make *this excellent Medicine* still more uni-  
 “ versally useful and safe.”

#### OBSERVATIONS.

THE three Tracts above of Mr. Prior, Dr. Hales, and Mr. Reid, with  
 Bishop Berkeley's Letters, coming last *October* among the Books of my  
 late dear Brother, the Rev. Mr. Nathan Prince, from *Rattan*, where he died  
 about the 25th of *July* last ; I could not but think them of such great Im-  
 portance to the Health of my Country, especially in many Towns which  
 have no Physicians, as to promote their being reprinted and dispersed here.

But

As the learned Writers on Tarwater in *Great-Britain*, seem not to be  
 fully apprized of the natural History of our *North-American Tar* ; I shall  
 here venture to make a few Observations, (1) Of the *Trees* from whence it  
 is derived ; (2) Of the *several Sorts of Tar* made from them ; and (3) Of  
 my little Experience of *their different Operations* on the human Oeconomy.

I. As to the *Trees* from whence it is derived—

They are a Sort of *Pines*, Ever-Greens, naturally and generally grow in  
 the sandy Grounds dispersed through the Territories of this Northern Con-  
 tinent : and are called by some *Turpentine Trees*, because of the Plenty of  
*Turpentine* in them ; by some *Pitch-Pines*, because of the Pitch made of  
 the Tar derived from them ; and by others, *Red-Pines*, because of the Red-  
 ness of the inner Part of the Wood, to distinguish them from another Sort  
 called *White Pines*, because of the Whiteness of the Wood within them.

But in these *Turpentine Trees*, at the going off of the Branches from the  
 main Stock, and in the middle of the Offsets, there are a Sort of woody,  
 close, compacted Bodies of a finer Grain and roundish Form, commonly  
 called *Pine-Knots* ; of a very visibly different Substance from the rest of the  
 Tree, both in Consistence as being more solid, in Colour being darkish  
 brown, and in vascular Distinction having a Rind of a similar Colour and  
 Consistence round them. They take their Rise in a conical Point from near  
 the Center of the Stock, and the Cone increasing grows largest at the Off-  
 set, goes into the Center of the Branch and there grows less again : The  
 Secretory Ducts leading into them are abundantly finer than the Canals of  
 the rest of the Wood : And the *Turpentine* of the rest of the Tree having  
 only passed through the first Secretions, being more gross and undigested ;  
 when it rises towards the Knots, those finer Strainers with the digesting Help  
 of the Sun-Beams secrete a finer and purer Substance into the Tubes of the  
 Knots, of a very different Smell, Taste and Colour (from the remaining Tur-  
 pentine) becoming a *natural Balsam*, fragrant, aromack, spirituous and ac-  
 tive ; which seems to be the most perfect natural Digestion of the terebin-  
 thinous

thinous Substance. And we may see these Knots distinguished in every Board made of these Red Pine Trees.

The *principal Use* of the *Knots* seem to be two-fold ; (1) To strengthen the Arms of the Tree at their Offsets, and render them more secure from being split off by Tempests ; (2) To be the *Repositories* and *Preservatives* of this valuable *Balsam* : which seems better than even the excellent Balsam of *Tolu* in this respect, that the *Water* of ours has not like that, such a Sweetness as to pall the weakest Stomach : And so firm and durable are the *Knots* and *Balsam* in them, that though the *Rest* of the *Tree*, much sooner than *Oaks*, decays with Age while standing, or being blown or cut down, dry or green, will for all the Turpentine in it, in a few Years rot to Powder ; yet these Knots are found in the midst of the Powder intirely distinct and firm ; and how long they will endure the Weather, I have not yet discovered.

II. As to the *several Tars* made in *North-America* and brought to *Boston*—

There seem to be three Sorts in general, (1) The *Green Tar* : So called because made of the said Pines while green ; being barked, as they stand, about 8 Foot from the Ground, except a Slip about 4 Inches broad to preserve the Tree from perishing ; then standing a Year, that the watery Juice may be more evaporated and the remaining Turpentine, and so the Tar more thick and viscid ; and then felled and cut into Billets for the *Tar-Kiln*, covered with Sods and set on Fire ; as Mr. Reid observes the *Act of Parliament* directs and orders. The Juice of these Billets therefore must be compounded chiefly of the *gross Turpentine* and a small Part of the *knotty Balsam*. And the Wood and its Canals, being green and open, the Juice is by the Heat of the Fire more easily and quickly dissolved, and the Tar less burnt and caustick : For which the *Parliament* therefore gives a *double Bounty*. 2. The *pure balsamick Tar* made of the *Knots* intirely, pick'd up after the rest of the Trees are rotten, and thrown to the Kiln-Heap : which being covered with Sods and set on Fire ; the *first Runnings* of the proper Tar are said to be *thick* and *curdly*, being but little heated by the Fire, have the finer and more spiritous Parts very little evaporated, are best of all both for Cordage and Medicines : And this Sort of Tar is a proper Balsam. But the longer the Kiln burns, the more the finer Parts evaporate, and the Remainder grows more pitchy and caustick ; and towards the End to such a Degree as to burn and hurt the Cordage. Water made of the *middle Runnings* is therefore not so good for internal Medicine ; and of the *latter* inwardly received, likely to be heating and hurtful to human Bodies. (3) The Tar made partly of these Knots, and partly of the *Facings* of the Trees where they were barked, if not of other Parts which appeared to have Turpentine in them. And this Tar must needs be less digested and balsamick than the second Sort ; though more than the first, as being a Compound made more of the Knots and less of the Turpentine : But the first Runnings of this are allowable for Medicines, the middle Runnings less, and the latter not at all for internal Uses, for the Reasons under the second Sort : Though Tar-water, weaker or stronger, made of the last Runnings of every Sort, may possibly be as effectual as any, if not more, in outward Applications.

And.



And the *Tars* which chiefly come to *Boston*, are the *green Tars* from *South Carolina*, and the other *two Sorts* both from *North-Carolina* and from diverse Parts of *New-England*: In particular from *Dunstable* and *Wilmington* and other Towns above us, brought down in Carts to *Mistick*, and then in Boats to *Boston*; and therefore commonly here called *Mistick-Tar*. The Pines in *South* and *North-Carolina* grow in very low Land; but those in *New-England*, especially those that supply the *Mistick-Tar*, in higher or drier: and the more *Northward* the *Spruce* and *Pines* grow, it seems as if they have a greater and more active Spirit. I know it is so in *Spruce*; and it is therefore likely in *Pines*.

III. and lastly, As to my little Experience of their *different Operations* on the Human Oeconomy—

For such a disorderly *Fret* in my *Blood* as hindered me from regular sleeping a Nights for fifteen Years, and other Ails, I began the first of *Feb.* last with the Water I made of *Mistick Tar*, according to the Bishop's Rule; taking one Wine-Glass an Hour before Breakfast, a second an Hour before Dinner, a third at 6 P. M. and a fourth a little before going to Bed: which beyond my Expectation immediately refreshed and composed me, so as on that very Night I began to take my Rest and Sleep in Season, and so held on a *Fortnight*. Then I for a *Fortnight* tried the *North-Carolina* thinner Tar, which helped me still, but not so well as the *Mistick*. Then the *South-Carolina* green Tar, which in two or three Days so heat my Blood, and broke my Rest as obliged me to throw it away: then I returned to the *first Runnings* of the *Mistick Tar*, which presently gave me Quiet again: and then I tried the *North-Carolina curdly Tar*, which agrees with me near as well as the *Mistick*; but I think the *Mistick* has a more active Spirit, and I feel a greater Liveliness, Strength and Influence of it in me almost as soon as swallowed down: and this for *internal Ails* I prefer to the others.

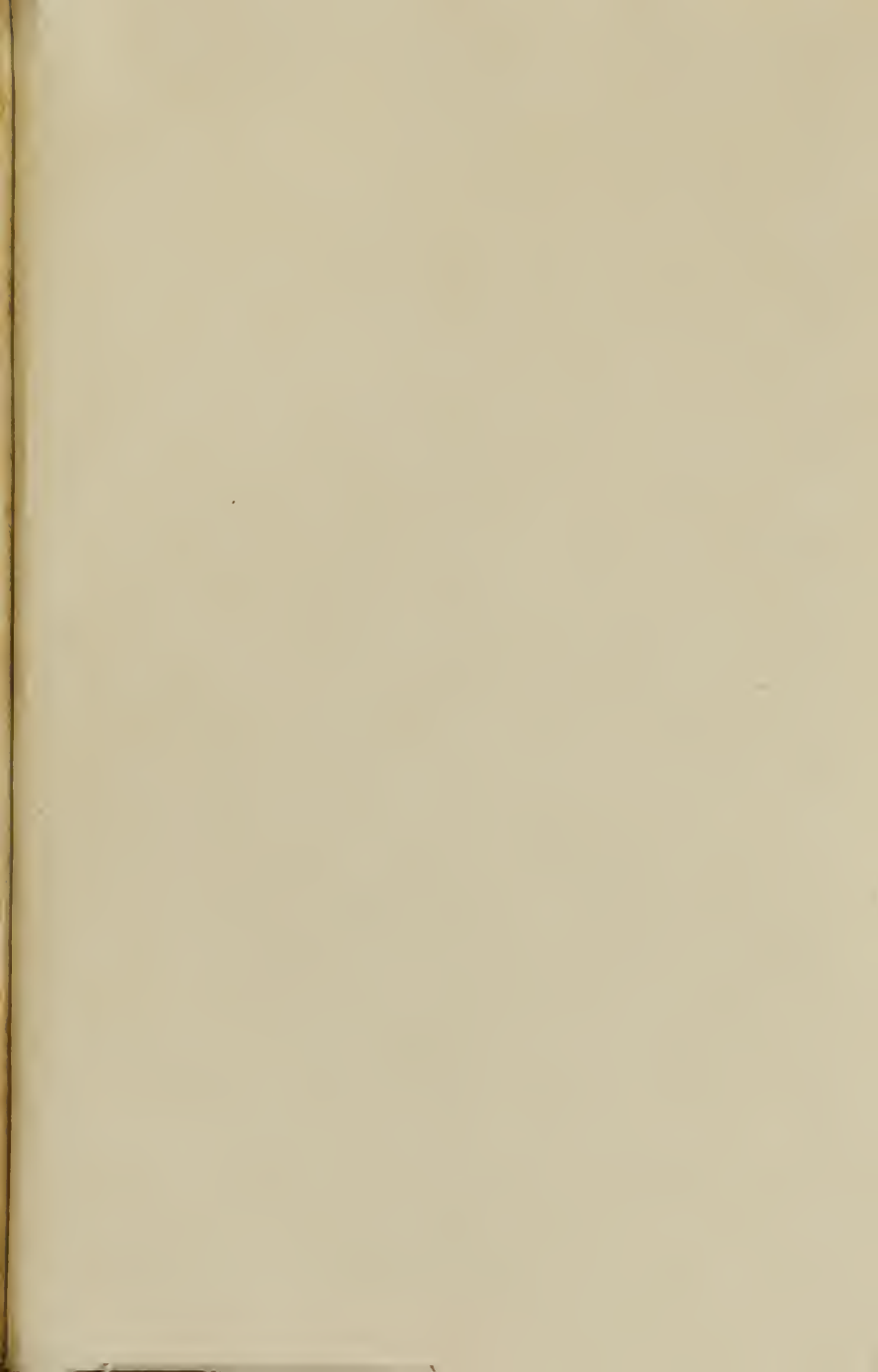
And as the learned *Bishop* observes the *Norway Tar* to have a more efficacious Virtue than the *South* and *North-Carolina*,—and ascribes it to this, that the Pines in *Norway* grow in higher and drier Land than those in *Carolina*; as the Juice of Apples growing in higher and drier Ground is more digested, spirituous and of a finer Flavour; For the same cause must *Mistick Tar* be preferable to the *Carolina*.—And if we could be sure of the *first Runnings* made of *Knots alone*, it seems highly probable that this would have the most efficacious and salubrious Virtue.

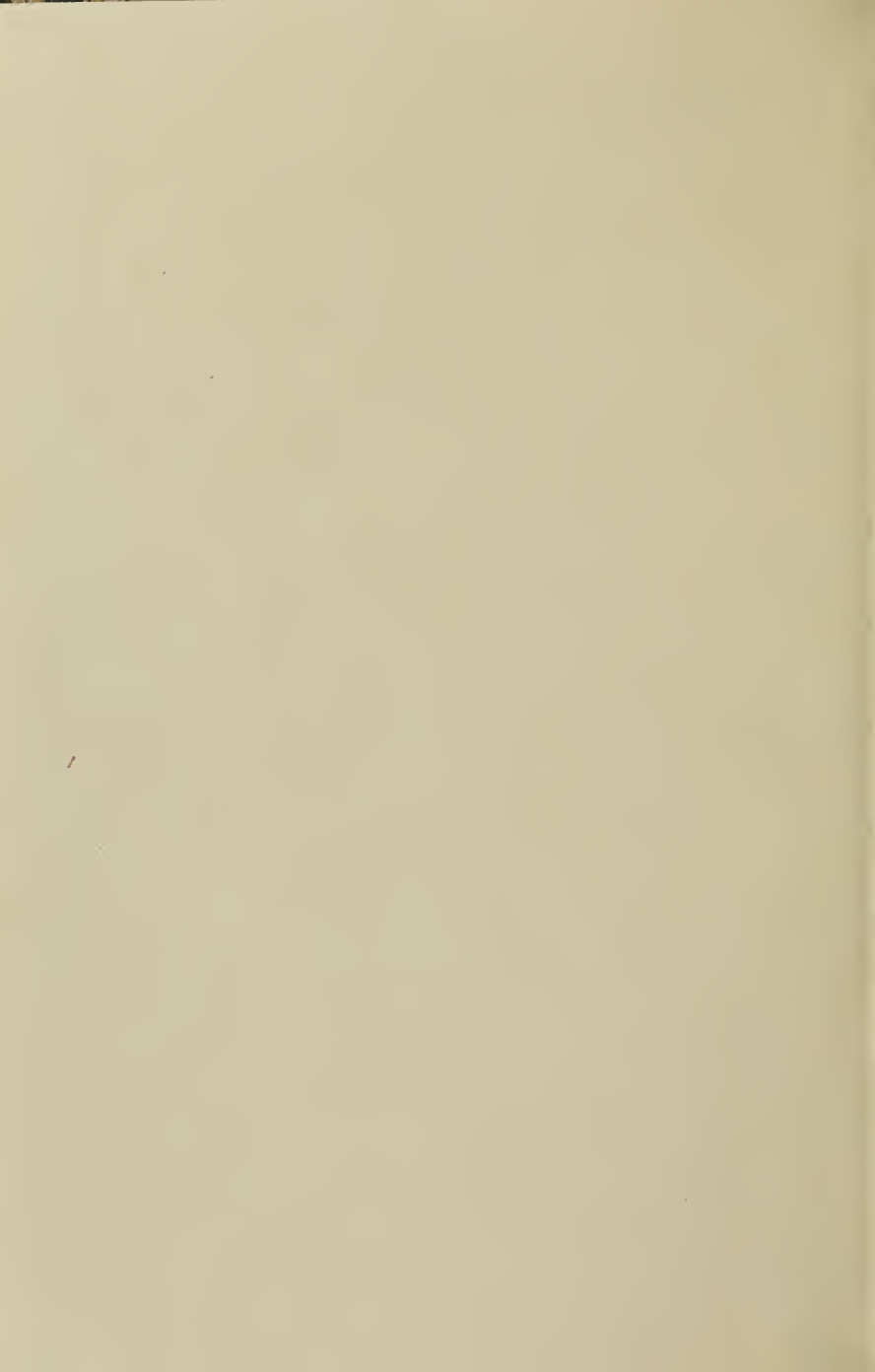
I think also that the purer the *Water* is, the more it draws the Spirit of the Tar into it. *Rain-water* seems indeed to give the Infusion a *mauivish* Taste, much more disagreeable than good clear Water out of the Earth. And Water best for *Tea* or to boil *Pease* is better than others.

To be more clear of the grosser Substance, I leave the Tar 3 Days close covered a Subsiding. And then the Tar-water being carefully Skimmed, decanted, and corked close in Bottles, it a few Days after seems to grow more cordial, active and vivacious.

Boston, May, 25. 1749.

T. Prince.







Book taken apart, leaves deacidified  
with magnesium bicarbonate. Folds  
reinforced, resewed on linen cords  
with new all-rag end paper signatures,  
unbleached linen hinges & hand sewed  
headbands. Rebound in quarter Russell's  
oasis morocco with hand marbled paper  
sides & vellum corners. Leather treated  
with potassium lactate & neat's foot  
oil & lanolin. June 1977.

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Med. Hist.

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